

BAY AREA REPORTER

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Anonymity Essential To AIDS Testing, Study Shows

Without Guarantees, Most Say They Won't Take Blood Test

As many as three-quarters of those tested for the AIDS virus antibody in San Francisco say they may not have taken the test if anonymity were not guaranteed, according to a new UC-San Francisco study released Monday.

The study—conducted in March and April—surveyed 417 consecutive clients at an AIDS antibody alternative test site, operated by the San Francisco Department of Public Health and the UCSF AIDS Health Project.

Forty-five percent of those surveyed said they would not have been tested if anonymity were not guaranteed, and another 29 percent said they were not sure whether they would be tested even with confidential procedures.

Clients also were asked why they wanted to take the antibody test and most gave many reasons. Eighty-six percent were concerned about their health and wanted to know their status; 72 percent were concerned about the potential for infecting others; and 40

percent felt that knowledge of the test result would help change sexual or other practices.

"These results indicate that anonymity is not only an important consideration but is a prerequisite for many of those at risk for AIDS," according to Jeffrey M. Moulton and Barbara E. Havassy, of the UCSF Langley Porter Psychiatric Institute and two of the authors of the study.

"Substantial numbers of those at risk who are concerned about

(Continued on page 2)

Today

Pulp and Circumstance: Lesbian pulp novels of the 1950s have been set to song and dance in a new play at Theatre Rhinoceros. See page 26.

Right to Bias: The City of San Francisco is arguing that it has the right to fire employees because of their sexual orientation. Ed Power has the story, page 4.

STOP AIDS PROJECT

Let's Talk: San Francisco's experiment in communication, the Stop AIDS Project, has met its goal and is closing up shop. Mary Richards explains, page 16.



State Slaps Parade With Audit, Tax Lien

Non-Payment of Payroll, Sales Taxes Brings Tax Man Down on Committee

by Ray O'Loughlin

The tax man wants to take a bit out of San Francisco's Lesbian & Gay Freedom Day Parade Committee. Because parade organizers failed to pay employee payroll taxes from 1978 through 1985, the California Employment Development Department is demanding an exhaustive audit of committee records for those years. In addition to that, the state's Board of Equalization has slapped an \$11,021 tax lien on the committee for skipping payment of sales taxes for the years 1982, 1983, 1984 and 1985.

(Continued on page 2)



Ballet artists Jim Sohm and Evelyn Cisneros perform for a huge crowd at the Aid & Comfort benefit Monday night at Fort Mason. The benefit raised money for local AIDS organizations. Story on page 13. (Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

Pres. Candidate Babbitt Backs Fed. Rights Law

Calls for National AIDS Plan

by Gerard Koskovich

Democratic presidential candidate Bruce Babbitt went on record recently favoring national legislation to guarantee equal rights for lesbians and gay men. He made the declaration during an informal press conference after a speech at Stanford University on Tuesday, May 26.

Asked by the Bay Area Reporter if he would support a national gay and lesbian rights law, Babbitt responded, "The answer is yes. The issue of equal rights is always an unfinished agenda in American society. That was the whole point of my opening statement."

A liberal Democrat and former governor of Arizona, Babbitt had opened his remarks before an estimated 250 people outside of Stanford's Roble Hall dormitory by recounting his awakening to problems of social justice and civil rights in the early 1960s.

Babbitt worked in 1962 as a geology student in Bolivia, where he "first saw the face of starvation," he said. Profoundly moved by the experience, he shifted his studies to political science and law. Soon thereafter, he became aware of the black civil rights movement.

"I began to pay attention and I began to hear the words of a young black minister, Martin Luther King, Jr.," Babbitt recalled. "All of a sudden, I too was in the streets of Selma, during the time that became known as 'Bloody Sunday' when blacks and their supporters faced an ex-

treme increase in racist violence.

According to Babbitt, his experiences as a volunteer civil rights worker in the South led him to understand "that I didn't need to go to South America to see the face of injustice. I probably didn't even need to go to Selma, Alabama.

"If I would only open my eyes and look around me, I could see the unfinished agenda everywhere, all around me," he continued. "And I began to understand that in this American society uniquely, it is individuals who matter. I began to feel the power of a few dedicated people to change history."

Babbitt's speech focused mainly on economic and foreign policy issues, but he also commented briefly on AIDS during the question and answer session with reporters.

"AIDS research is not getting high level planning and direction," he said. "I don't know if the funding for research is inadequate, but we do need to set a strong direction at the national level for research."

Babbitt added that he believes "we certainly do need more resources for both education and treatment" to combat the AIDS epidemic.

A graduate of Harvard Law School, Babbitt was Arizona attorney general in 1975-78, and was governor of the state from 1978-86.

The candidate also made appearances in San Jose and San Francisco during a two-day tour of the Bay Area last week. His Stanford speech was sponsored by Stanford-In-Government, a nonpartisan student organization that coordinates political internships for Stanford students.

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Taxes

(Continued from page 1)

According to parade co-chair Helen Ruvelas, both problems were corrected by the 1986 organizing committee. "All taxes were paid in 1986 and so far in 1987," she told the Bay Area Reporter. "We're 100 percent legal."

The Freedom Day parade has a total budget this year of \$202,000. In 1986, according to Parade Committee figures, the organization paid at least \$2,200 in taxes on sales income of \$42,848. The parade depends upon the sale of tee-shirts and other souvenirs for nearly one-fourth of its operating budget. This year's parade also received a \$40,000 grant from the city's Hotel Tax Fund.

Describing the problem as "rampant" among nonprofit corporations, such as the Parade Committee, Ruvelas said, "It's a misconception among many nonprofits that all the money they collect is theirs to keep."

But according to Ruvelas, the tax lien is merely a "perfunctory" formality that the state "had to do." She said that the committee has reached an agreement with state officials on paying the \$11,000 bill. That plan calls for monthly payments over the next two years.

No amount has yet been assessed the Parade Committee by the Employment Development Department (EDD) for back payroll taxes. At present, EDD is auditing committee records, requiring a complete accounting of payments to all individuals. Many have to be located to obtain the records.

Beginning in 1986, she said, the committee enforced a policy of withholding taxes from those on the payroll. Previously, "it was up to individuals to take care of their taxes."

"We inherited the problem," said Joy Schulenberg, president of the Parade Committee Board of Directors. "Going back through the records of the three corporations in charge of the parade since 1978," she said, "we have to determine who was an independent contractor and who was an employee."

That search could mean con-



Larry Burnett

(B.A.R. Photo)

tacting "hundreds of individuals," according to Schulenberg. With stage crews, child care workers, office staff and others, she said, "the line becomes blurred whether someone was on staff or an individual contractor."

"The bottom line is, we may have paid people as contractors who the EDD says we should have paid as employees," said Schulenberg. "If they should have been paid as employees, we are responsible for the taxes," she said.

She expects it will take months to track down all the needed records, such as personal income tax returns, for the EDD audit. But, said Schulenberg, "This year's Parade Committee anticipates being able to handle the problem."

Two weeks before the parade — set for Sunday, June 28 — organizers faced a more immediate difficulty: the mysterious disappearance of co-chair Larry Burnett. Burnett has been miss-

ing since early May. He has abandoned his position as co-chair, not shown up for work at the Henry Ohloff House, and not been seen by his housemates. He was reportedly seen once in mid-May in the East Bay.

"We wish we knew where he was," said Schulenberg. "For those of us who considered him a friend and a co-worker, this is a disturbing thing to happen. We're concerned that he's all right."

Co-chair Ruvelas shared that concern, saying, "He went through a lot losing several friends to AIDS in a month. It was real hard."

Both Ruvelas and Schulenberg were at a loss to explain Burnett's disappearance. Both said, however, there was no indication of foul play in his leaving. The committee has placed Burnett on an "unscheduled leave of absence" and suspended his salary. Board members are filling in to cover his duties.

Testing

(Continued from page 1)

their health and infecting others would not have been tested if anonymous sites were not available," they concluded.

Preliminary findings of the study were reported in May at a public health grand rounds sponsored by the State Department of Health Services.

Two kinds of antibody testing were described to those surveyed: anonymous and confidential. At an anonymous test center, which is where the survey was conducted, names are never recorded and there is no way a test result can be traced to the individual.

At a confidential center, which has been proposed by some officials around the country, names would be recorded with the result but treated like information in a medical chart.

Of those surveyed, 75 percent were men and the mean age was 35 years. Forty percent were gay men; 34 percent were heterosexual with high risk partners or multiple partners since 1978; 14 percent were bisexual males or

persons not indicating a sexual preference who had partners in a risk group; and 6 percent were IV drug users.

'These results indicate that anonymity is not only an important consideration but is a prerequisite for many of those at risk for AIDS.'

—Jeffrey M. Moulton and Barbara E. Havassy

The study also found the following:

- Among gay men, 82 percent said either they would not be tested (60 percent) or they were not sure (22 percent) they would be tested under confidential procedures.

- For heterosexuals, 34 percent would not have been tested under confidential terms and another 34 percent were not sure.

- Among heterosexual IV drug users, 26 percent said they would not be tested and 53 percent were not sure.

- Of those who said they were tested because of concern for their health, 39 percent stated they would not have come to the test center without assurances of anonymity.

- Of those concerned about infecting others, 33 percent stated they would not have been tested under confidential procedures.

"These data suggest the public health benefits associated with the knowledge of one's antibody result are best served when anonymous AIDS antibody testing is provided," said Moulton.

Co-authors of the study were James Dille, M.D., assistant clinical professor of psychiatry and director of the UCSF AIDS Health Project; Neil Seymour of the UCSF AIDS Health Project; and David Sweet of the department of psychiatry.

Lub. Too Slick, Pull Out, Says FDA

Lubraseptic Recalled from Stores; Claims to Kill Virus Not Verified

by Ray O'Loughlin

The federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has banned the sale of a lubricant claiming to be effective in killing the AIDS virus. The makers of Lubraseptic were ordered in April to pull their product from store shelves after the FDA ruled that advertising claims that the lubricant aided the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases were questionable.

United-Guardian, Inc., a 45-year old pharmaceutical research company based in upstate New York, has stopped the production and distribution of Lubraseptic for retail consumption. The company is in the process of liquidating its subsidiary, Harriman Laboratories, created for the purpose of marketing Lubraseptic.

After the FDA issued a class III recall order, federal officers seized supplies of the product at the firm's factory in New York and in warehouses in California. A class III recall means the product poses a very low degree of potential harm to users.

According to Janet McDonald, consumer affairs officer for the FDA's San Francisco office, the company made "medical claims for which there was no substantiating data."

"They had not gone through the drug approval process," she said.

McDonald said she was not aware of any investigations of other lubricants on the market that also claim to kill the AIDS virus.

"They felt we had overstepped our bounds in certain labeling claims," said Robert Rubinger, vice-president at United-Guardian. "We don't agree but to go to court would be counterproductive, take too long, and be too expensive," he added.

The "labeling claims" in question concerned Lubraseptic's ability to prevent the transmission of the AIDS virus. In its ads, the manufacturer stated that in test tube trials, Lubraseptic killed sperm, bacteria, and the AIDS virus completely within 30 seconds of contact. Tests in human beings were not possible. But the ads claimed that the product was "more effective than products containing nonoxynol-9."

Nowhere did the ads openly state that use of Lubraseptic would prevent the transmission of the AIDS virus. But, said Rubinger, "the mere juxtaposition of the name and the data on laboratory tests were enough for the FDA to accuse us of improper labeling."

"We felt we never blatantly recommended the product as useful in the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases. They felt that that was implied," he said.



Lubraseptic

Ads for Lubraseptic, which appeared in gay publications across

the country, did recommend, however, that "water-based lub-

ricants and use of condoms provide the greatest protection against sexually transmitted diseases."

Lubraseptic has been manufactured by United-Guardian for over two decades and is commonly used in hospitals as an antibacterial lubricant. The FDA recall order does not affect hospital use of the product.

"The product is not in any way tainted," said Rubinger, emphasizing that consumers are in no danger from use of Lubraseptic. Its manufacture and sale to medical suppliers continues under FDA approval.

The retail distribution of Lubraseptic is not planned to be resumed by United-Guardian. The reason, according to Rubinger, was poor sales. "If anything, it was a disappointment on the market," he said. "In our appraisal, sales were greatly below what we expected." Lubraseptic had been on the market, primarily in the gay community, for nine months.

In light of the estimated costs and the time required for further testing to gain FDA approval — as high as \$10 million and five years — the company decided to drop the product line entirely. ●

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City Has Right To Bias Against Gays, Says Renne

Argues Against Gay Rights Ordinance; Raines Case Heads for Third Trial

by Ed Power

Michael Raines' seven-year legal battle against the City of San Francisco took another twist last month when the city attorney's office attempted once again to convince the state Court of Appeal that San Francisco's gay rights ordinance was invalid and that he city had a right to fire "executive level" employees because of their sexual orientation. Although the appellate court summarily dismissed the city's arguments, the latest legal maneuvers in this case left Raines and his attorneys accusing City Attorney, and mayoral candidate, Louise Renne of "less than a full commitment" to gay rights.

Renne did not respond to repeated requests for comment on the case.

Raines' saga began in January 1980 when he was fired from his position as managing director of the Performing Arts complex by the War Memorial Board of Trustees. Raines brought suit, charging that his dismissal was the result of anti-gay bias.

Raines' attorneys, prominent civil rights advocates Mary Dunlap and Matt Coles, uncovered evidence that Philip Boone, then

president of the War Memorial Board of Trustees, had complained to the board that "these homosexuals are getting too much power in this city." Homophobic motivations on the part of several other trustees were also alleged.

Despite this evidence, however, two trials have ended in hung juries. In the first, the jurors split 6 to 6, while in the second eight of the 12 jurors voted in favor of Raines. Under California law, nine jurors must agree on a verdict.

CITY ATTORNEY'S TACTICS

From the start, the city's handling of the case drew as much controversy as the firing itself. In 1981, then-City Attorney George Agnost responded to Raines' suit not only by denying that Raines had been discriminated against but by arguing that San Francisco's gay rights ordinance was unconstitutional as well.

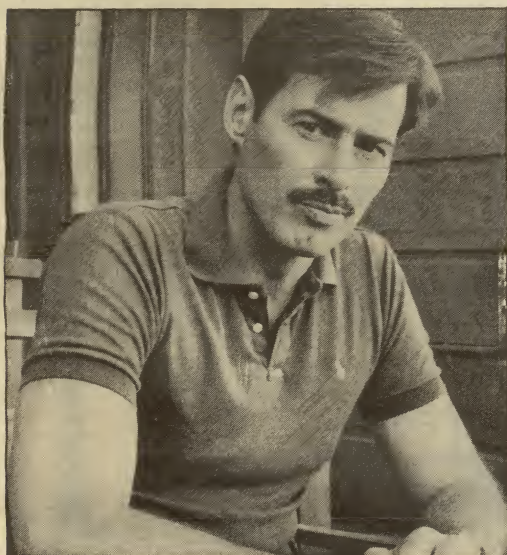
The Board of Supervisors responded by passing a resolution ordering Agnost to desist from

(Continued on page 23)



Louise Renne

(Photo: Mick Hicks)



The State Supreme Court issued a strange ruling about the forced blood test of Brian Barlow (above). (Photo: Rink)

Barlow Wins Case, But Court Strikes Out Precedent

Appellate Ruling on Confidentiality Upheld; Refuses to Publish Judge's Opinion

by Will Snyder

The California Supreme Court has ruled on the Brian Barlow case to the cheers and dismay of gay rights advocates. On May 26, the Court refused to overrule the California 4th District Court of Appeals. That court held that the results of an AIDS antibody test of Barlow, who is accused of biting two San Diego police officers on duty, could not be disclosed without Barlow's consent. The Supreme Court thus upheld California's strict law on the confidentiality of HIV tests.

That decision cheered pro-gay forces. But the Court also ruled that the case could not be written into the record and used as a legal precedent. That decision disappointed Leonard Graff, legal director of National Gay Rights Advocates, who has worked on the Barlow case.

"They were legally satisfied with the decision of the lower court," Graff said of the newly-conservative state Supreme Court, "but they were also adamant that this should not affect

future decisions.

"It is unfortunate," he added, "that what started out as such a positive decision by a conservative court ended having a negative slant to it."

Barlow was arrested last June in San Diego during that city's gay pride parade. He was marching with the San Francisco Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Marching Band and Twirling Corps. He was carrying water in small containers, ready to moisten the lips of band members as they marched. Along the way, Barlow was allegedly involved in a scuffle with religious fundamentalists who were heckling the parade from the sidelines. When two San Diego police officers wrestled Barlow to the ground, he allegedly bit them.

Later, San Diego authorities, upon learning that Barlow is gay, forcibly drew blood from the San Francisco man. Fearing he could have transmitted the AIDS virus, they said they wanted to find out if Barlow should be charged with attempted murder.

As far as Graff is concerned, there is a hidden agenda of homophobia in the Barlow case. "There are two issues which are much larger than just the issue of whether or not Barlow bit the cop," Graff said. "They tried to say he should be tested because he's in a parade for gay pride and that he's from San Francisco.

"That's throwing poison at someone," Graff added. "They were saying to me, 'Well, we test for rabies. Why shouldn't we test for AIDS!'"

The main argument against testing pointed out to the Court of Appeals by Graff and Barlow's San Diego attorney, Peter Hughes. Chapter 1.11 of the Health and Safety Code provides that "No person shall test a person's blood for evidence of antibodies to the probably causative agent of AIDS without the written consent of the subject of the test, and the person giving the test shall have a written statement signed by the subject confirming that he or she obtained the consent of the subject."

Hughes said that he thought it was "too bad" the Court decided not to have this decision published. He added, however, that he feels the subject of testing, as it applied to the Barlow case, may be brought up in future legislation in the California Assembly and Senate.

Despite the fact, Barlow's blood test may not be used against him, he still faces the possibility of a trial. He is still being charged with assault on a police officer. Hughes said he thinks the case may go to court in September, but he added, "There is still some question about the validity of these charges."

"Being young doesn't mean you're immortal."

That's what a lot of people my age think. But I feel lucky to know about safe sex, and to have found a place to talk openly and freely about my feelings." — Rafael Duran

To attend a Stop AIDS meeting, call 621-7177

The Stop AIDS Project is funded in part by the San Francisco Dept. of Public Health and the California Dept. of Health Services.

Design: Ken Henderson



STOP AIDS PROJECT

It's about change. And isn't it about time?

Photo: Tony Frewitt

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EDITORIAL & OPINION

Still Marching?

This year being the 20th anniversary of the 1967 Summer of Love, it has become the fashion to remember the 1960s and ponder that decade's legacy. Part of that legacy has to include the establishment of sit-in protests and large demonstrations as part of the standard repertoire of U.S. politics. Pioneered by the black civil rights movement and expanded by massive anti-war marches, marches are now common, if not commonplace.

Protests have their uses, even in this jaded age. A well-placed demonstration can focus attention on issues. It's no mere coincidence that the mass protest developed alongside the growth of mass media. It's a calculated method of getting a political point across.

Demonstrations can also help draw the lines in a political conflict. Last week's arrests in Washington, D.C. of 64 people protesting federal lassitude in the AIDS crisis provoked police to put on yellow rubber gloves. That showed the world the degree of ignorance we face in trying to establish an intelligent response to this health crisis.

Demonstrations also can serve as morale boosters to those involved in political struggle. To see our people sitting down in Pennsylvania Avenue, demanding to be heard at San Francisco's Federal Building, and cornering drug company executives in their normally placid suburban offices — all that says that we are fighting back, taking the offensive. We're not going to let our opponents off so easy.

But protest demonstrations have their limitations. For one thing, they have become so common they've lost the edge once held. In too many cases, civil disobedience and marches have become one more sanitized ritual in American politics. Little is risked, few are provoked, nothing more seems to get done. The police are, in most instances these days, very polite — if not more afraid of protesters than protesters used to be of the cops. Those arrested are escorted to jail, modestly inconvenienced, charged a fine and then go about their business.

I don't mean to brag, but back in the '60s, those who marched, sat-in, or resisted the draft, were told we were throwing away our futures. Because those risks were taken anyway, protesters now face limited risks.

I am tired of marching. Can't we do anything else? I can't help but feel every time I see one more well-rehearsed sit-in, that all it is now is a gesture of powerlessness. In Washington, D.C. last week, we succeeded in embarrassing the cops and some people came away feeling empowered. Not bad. But is that all? What, in the long term, has been contributed to this very, very long struggle against this epidemic and this uncaring government?

In 1987, let's face it, demonstrations have very limited effectiveness. As a tactical maneuver to gain a larger point they are valid. That requires pinpointed targets and specific goals to be accomplished. A successful protest depends on a long-term organizational commitment to state and follow through on coherent demands. Otherwise, the protest is meaningless or, worse yet, an embarrassment. To put our justified anger on display in the street is understandable but not necessarily the wisest move.

After a point, demonstrations become simply self-indulgent and a drain on community energy instead of a boost to community energy. Certainly, we in the 1980s should know this. This is the era of power and if politics is about anything, it is about the getting, keeping, and use of power.

Rather than stand outside the White House and scold Ronald Reagan or stand outside the state capitol and scold George Deukmejian, I'd rather take the time and make the effort to cultivate some contacts inside. That is now within our grasp. Those are the opportunities we need to seize.

Yes, that means making deals and allowing compromises, and losing some purity perhaps in some advantageous trade-offs. Getting down in the trenches these days may mean going to swank cocktail parties with some people you can't otherwise stand.

I suppose I've opened myself to being called an opportunist. I'll take that risk. These days in which the entire human rights agenda has been severely compromised, I feel an obligation to grab opportunity when it comes around.

Ray O'Loughlin

OPINION

Reach Out to the Moderate Middle

by Rep. Tony Coelho, House Majority Whip

Excerpts from Remarks before the National AIDS Network Conference, Los Angeles, March 27

When I started to prepare my remarks I thought I knew a lot about the issue. It didn't take me long to realize how much I didn't know. Part of the problem is that this issue is hard to keep up with: AZT, self-inoculation, the Arline case — every day it seems there's another development and often another breakthrough.

As my good friend Henry Waxman [D-CA, chair, House subcommittee on health] said recently: "If the '60s are remembered as the decade of war and protest, the '80s will be remembered for the epidemic." And the Reagan Administration, for all its sweeping policy changes, will not be remembered for its space shield, its secret wars or even, I think, its destruction of U.S. credibility abroad.

"The Reagan Administration will be remembered for its failure to deal with AIDS."

I agree with that.

We will in fact look back on this decade and remember with regret saving a few dollars but losing thousands of lives. We will remember and regret shying away from education and turning instead to short-sighted non-solutions like mandatory testing. We will remember and regret aiming discrimination at people with AIDS rather than devoting enough public resources to finding treatments for their problems. We will remember and regret electing a president who loves to declare war — war on the Sandinistas, war on the so-called welfare cheats, war on the elderly and most vulnerable in society — but who ignores the most awesome threat to public safety in generations.

It's been said that no Hollywood script writer could have dreamed up the Iran-contra affair: Swiss bank accounts, real life Rambos, tragic suicide attempts — you name it. But to quote Congressman Waxman once again, "Not even the Greek gods could have created a drama more tragic and more ironic than this disease at this time during this Administration."

We have a nation under the reign of a budget-slashing president and under siege by a budget-busting epidemic. We have an Administration that finds it difficult to tell heterosexuals about contraception but must now support efforts to tell homosexuals about safe sex. We have anti-gay ideologues and evangelists, who when they aren't paying hush

money to cover up their own hypocrisy, are arming themselves with the new rhetorical weapon of AIDS.

We have a press corps that just six years ago would not use the words gay or lesbian but must now explain how bodily fluids are exchanged.

And we have gay people themselves, who wanted only for the government to leave them alone but who now have a real need for protection and assistance from governments they fear more than ever.

In the meantime, it will fall to groups like this one to convince the American people and of course the politicians that AIDS is too serious a matter to be dealt with through fear and ignorance. Fortunately, I think the new 100th Congress is headed in the right direction. As you know, AIDS funding nearly doubled from fiscal year 1986 to '87, from \$233 million to \$417 million. This year the president requested \$534 million, but much of his request came at the expense of other health programs.

Congressman Waxman and Senator Kennedy have made it clear that the Administration's proposals are inadequate. And I can assure you the House leadership agrees. Not only will we approve higher funding than the president wants, but we don't intend to displace other necessary programs.

We'll take it out of Star Wars or contra aid instead. Or if need be we should have the guts to raise taxes to pay for it.

In addition to funding, there's bipartisan support for a non-political national commission — a "Manhattan Project" on AIDS if you will — that would coordinate federal research, education and prevention activities, and also override existing bureaucratic roadblocks.

But that does not mean there's no threat from the right or that everyone in Congress fully understands this issue and its potential consequences. Which leads me to my next point, which is political.

Next year of course is an election year, a presidential election year. And without question "what-to-do-about-AIDS?" is going to be a major issue for all the candidates and for both parties generally. We've already felt some tremors, but I believe AIDS will set records on the political Richter Scale in 1988. Every candidate will have to deal with it — as they should.

If, as the experts now predict, AIDS will claim more lives by the time President Reagan leaves office than were killed in the Vietnam war; and if, as the economists now tell us, AIDS will consume billions and billions of our GNP; and if, as we all know, the Reagan Administration has failed miserably, then AIDS should be debated in the campaign. It should be a major issue. And we should be aggressively taking it on, not just playing defense.

It would be my hope that the AIDS issue not degenerate into another

(Continued on page 14)

LETTERS

Taking Pride In Ourselves

★ One of the most beautiful things about the United States, and especially San Francisco is the rich diversity of people and opinions. Physically, I prefer smooth men, some like hairy. Most could probably care less. I have never equated masculinity with body hair, or the lack of it. I feel that that comes from inside. The important thing is that we take pride in ourselves and have respect for the individuality of others.

Professionally, as an electrologist, I help those men and women who aren't happy with their present hair pattern: from eyebrow shaping and beard trimming, to back, chest, shoulders or, whatever. The current change in my ad was meant to be humorous. However if I have offended Mr. Mahendra-Sabeta or, anyone else I sincerely apologize. Thank you though for illustrating that not everyone is attracted to opposites.

John Frizzell
California Electrolysis Clinic
San Francisco

Hairy II

★ I find M. Mahendra-Sabeta's letter published in last B.A.R. to be offensive and full of value judgment. In his letter he has publicly attacked John Frizzell and decided what is right for the gay community regarding body hair.

The tone of his letter makes it sound like it was written by an ape. It is not hair that makes the man. It is his attitude, his compassion, his spirit to relate to a diverse society that makes him a man. The message "More hair makes more man" to me is bunk.

If manhood is measured by physical strength and a healthy body, show me a hairy bodybuilder. Professional bodybuilders remove their hair to show the definition of their bodies. No one measures their virility based on body hair.

For years, I was quite hairy. After body shaving scenes I found that body hair deprived me of a great deal of touch stimulation. Hair tends to encapsulate the body, restricting a wonderful world of feeling.

Over the last two years, I have been a client of John Frizzell. He has removed hair from all over my body. John is extremely conscientious in his work, a true professional. He provides a valued service to our community. No one is forced to use it, but it is there if you desire.

A note in another publication suggested that hairy men who eat bananas had a strong desire to set up house keeping in the jungles of Central Africa. I wonder if there is any truth to that statement?

Jim Norwood
San Francisco

Think Again, Andrew

★ To Andrew J. Betancourt:

You know, Betancourt, it may be true that if you publicly demonstrate enough hatred and contempt towards your fellow homosexuals, then straight people may finally accept you as an equal.

Then again, they may not.

Stuart A. McDonald, Esq.
San Francisco

Will Her Voice Be Heard?

★ I for one, find it most interesting that Nancy Pelosi's "first order of business" will be to co-sponsor a gay rights bill. And I have to wonder what she feels might be her chances of success, considering the fact that she couldn't even prevent the elimination of the lesbian and gay caucus in the Democratic Party.

Care to respond, Ms. Pelosi?

Alan D. Bigford
San Francisco

Prop. 64 All Over Again

★ This letter was sent to President Ronald Reagan, The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, D.C.:

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing to express my deep sense of concern, and, indeed, outrage, over your remarks during the AIDS research fundraising event in Washington.

I have consistently opposed legislation establishing anything but voluntary testing for AIDS. Last year in California, we successfully defeated proposals requiring testing prior to marriage, testing in hospitals, and testing of those convicted of sexually related crimes. In addition, we triumphed over the extremist proposals contained in Prop. 64.

My concern, however, is that you seem to have accepted the advice of those more closely attuned to the Prop. 64 approach, than the counsel and guidance offered by your own Surgeon General and health officers across the country. AIDS cannot be made a political weapon. Partisan politics, moralistic crusades, and public posturing must be avoided if we really desire to successfully address this epidemic.

It is clear that political leaders must support the recommendations of the doctors, researchers, and scientists who are currently leading the fight against AIDS. I fear that your recent comments will only give comfort to those who are seeking to drive this disease underground and mask the growing epidemic, or others who use AIDS as a hammer with which to beat down certain communities.

For example, testing immigrants and visitors to our country would be remarkably expensive, given the unreliability of the current test in certain populations. In addition, the antibody test does not clearly predict the viral status of those tested. Finally, researchers have only recently found a third strain of the virus that is not indicated on the test in use today.

I strongly support the recommendations of your Surgeon General, and urge you to work wholeheartedly at implementing these proposals in law. Our most effective weapons, and the best use of our precious dollars, are large-scale, clear education, the development of a vaccine, and successful treatment programs for those already infected. That is where our national effort should be directed.

I will continue to support these efforts at the state and local level. I hope you see fit to adjust your policies and take the more effective, courageous path.

Milton Marks
California State Senator
Sacramento

A Voice That Will Forget

★ Given the track records of other classic limosine-liberal fag-hags (Bird, Burton and Feinstein are typical) one cannot help but wonder how long before Pelosi forgets those naive homosexuals who were stupid enough to waste their most precious possession—the right to vote—on her substanceless candidacy.

With due consideration,

Thomas M Edwards
San Francisco

Hot-boom!

★ I am writing to extend my heartfelt congratulations for printing of the letter, Give 'em Hell Hairy. You have in the past had letters about dykes on Dynasty, and to stop the speed of AIDS with used condoms, but never before a letter with hair on the butt? What a dilemma! It brings my stomach to stink.

Now I too would like to feel my woodpecker pressed firm against a man's hairy ass, between the pages of a hot summer afternoon, or maybe while the moon is still on fire.

Hot-boom! — Big Fun. Ja Ja Ja.

Temonswang Lemursgut
San Francisco

ED. NOTE: We print this paean to the hirsute as received; no editing for usage or understanding. We wonder if the writer's brain is as fuzzy as he likes other parts of the anatomy.

R. O'Loughlin

Just the Facts, Please

★ After reading the June 1 issue of The Contra Costa Times, I felt compelled to write to you. First, I had spent the last 30 days trying to find a place in the Castro, and let me tell you they go fast. Every place had many applicants. I don't know where the reporter (Gretchen Kell) got her info. It's still so bad, we ended up moving to Orinda.

Second, she paints such a gloom-and-doom picture. And how it's not the place to be. I know at least three guys who have moved from Phoenix within the last year. They think it is the greatest, and I know I go every chance I get. It is a very special place where you can openly show your affection and love for each other—where else could you do that?

I hope you urge your readers to write to the company that publishes this crap. (Lescher Communications, 2640 Shadelands Dr., Walnut Creek, CA.)

Thank you and keep up the good work.

Jack C. Long
Orinda

ED. NOTE: Mr. Long is referring to an article entitled, *Death Haunts San Francisco's Castro District*, in which author Kell paints a picture of consistently empty apartment houses in the Castro because of the AIDS epidemic.

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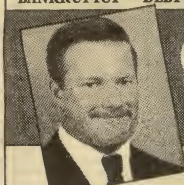
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DEPARTMENTS

We Must Educate

★ This letter was sent to the Department of Health
Services, California Conference of Local Health Of-
ficers, Office of Advisory Liaison, 714 P Street, Room
1376, Sacramento, CA 95184:

We agree there is no need for a state quarantine pro-
gram to deal with AIDS. However, we do take excep-
tions to the draft documents as submitted.

It is not clear what is meant by repeated use of the
term "expose others without the knowledge of those
exposed." As Mervyn Silverman repeatedly points
out, most AIDS transmission is by mutually consent-
ing behavior. In this case, the appropriate method
of fighting the disease is by educating those making
the consent, not by imposing behavioral control
which may or may not be effective in affecting
underlying motivation for behavior.

Willful acts of infecting others can be dealt with
adequately under the current legal system and re-
quire no further interventions by health officers.

In general, we believe the evidence in San Fran-
cisco indicates that "education" of high risk groups
involved in AIDS is the most effective way to modify
behavior and we feel that attempts by non-involved
third parties attempting to coerce behavior is both
unwise and undesirable.

Timothy Brace, President
Committee to Preserve
Our Sexual and Civil Liberties

The Forgotten Blood Sample

★ There has been extensive reporting about
epidemiological research recently released by Dr.
George Rutherford, medical director of the AIDS Of-
fice at San Francisco Department of Public Health.
The research, based on data compiled in the nation's
longest running AIDS study, shows that most peo-
ple exposed to the HIV virus will develop symptoms
of AIDS over time.

Specifically, the statistics show that after seven
years of being infected with the HIV virus, 30 per-
cent of men had AIDS, 21 percent at AIDS-related
complex (ARC), 27 percent had generalized lymphade-
nopathy, or swollen glands, and 22 percent were
symptom-free. Based on this study, it is estimated 70
percent of San Francisco's gay men are infected with
the virus.

This AIDS study should *not* be used to base
estimates of how many infected people will get AIDS
as time passes. Nor should the study be used to
estimate the prevalence of the virus among San Fran-
cisco's gay men.

The fundamental problem with the AIDS study is
that it is a long-term follow-up of a group of San Fran-
cisco gay men who were recruited from the City's
venereal disease (VD) clinic for a Hepatitis B study.

Between 1978 and 1980, 6,700 men voluntarily had
their blood drawn for the hepatitis study. The blood
samples were then stored in a freezer and forgotten.
In 1981, AIDS began to show up in San Francisco.
Of the 24 AIDS cases that first year, 11 individuals
had been in the hepatitis study.

In 1982, the Health Department remembered the
stored blood samples and launched a citywide search
for a 20 percent random sample of the original vol-
unteers. Of the 1,200 men eligible, 700 men were
located and volunteered to participate in the AIDS
study. The recently released data is based on a cohort
of 63 gay men found to be infected with the AIDS
virus in 1983.

It is very probable that the study's statistics would
be different if the San Francisco Department of Public
Health: (1) had not used sexually active men
recruited from a VD clinic; and (2) the random sam-
ple in the initial phase of the study had been the full
20 percent—1,200 men.

George M. Raya
San Francisco

No Hysteria

★ More and more calls have been heard of late, chief-
ly from the right wing of the American political spec-
trum, for mandatory testing for the AIDS virus of
all immigrants, and often of all adult Americans.
While such calls, on the surface, would appear to be
motivated chiefly by a desire to protect the health of
the public, they are not addressing a core issue that
must be resolved if AIDS is to be controlled, and
eventually eliminated, once a cure is discovered.

The issue, of course, is the continued existence of
homophobia in our society. Nearly half of our states
still have laws, based upon Biblical taboos, which ban
homosexual behavior between consenting adults. It is
still legal in a majority of our states to discrimi-
nate against hiring or renting to gays, the exceptions
to this being a few enlightened city or state govern-
ments, and most federal agencies. Of course, the
State Department and Defense Department still dis-
criminate against us, though their officials do not
have the courage to admit that such discrimination
is pure and simple homophobia, cloaked with the

buzzwords "national security" and "security risk."

I strongly wonder if the position of our commu-
nity should not be that first all laws prohibiting homo-
sexual behavior between consenting adults over 18
must be removed from the law books in every state,
and all laws prohibiting discrimination in hiring and
renting based on race, religion or ethnic group must
be modified to include sexual orientation as another
basis upon which it is not legal to discriminate. Then,
and only then, should we be willing to talk about help-
ing to conduct mandatory AIDS testing.

We should also work toward the enactment of laws
protecting both the health of that part of the public
which still has not contracted the AIDS virus, and
which at the same time protect the right of persons
suffering from AIDS to continue to work at their jobs,
and to continue to live in their homes without fear
of being evicted.

The need for such laws has been shown by those
lamentable incidents where doctor-patient confi-
dentiality has not been observed when the patient was
diagnosed as having AIDS. Often this has resulted
in the patient being fired or evicted from his place
of residence, whether or not the patient was still
capable of working and was posing no health risk to
the public at large.

People's China, without a health system as
technologically advanced as our own, has almost
completely wiped out syphilis and gonorrhea be-
cause there is no great taboo about discussing the
subject. The government treated it as a matter of
great concern, and there would be no case of persons
losing jobs due to their having to undergo a cure. So
diseases can be eradicated, or controlled, if the pro-
blem is approached intelligently without hysteria or
prejudice.

Eugene Marangoni
Fremont

ICF Progressive Dinner

★ The Directors of the Inter-Club Fund would like
to take this opportunity to thank the following
individuals/establishments for their participation in
making our Annual Progressive Dinner such a great
financial success: Lenny Mollet (Chez Mollet), Jim
Summerside (Folsom New World), Brian Todd (The
Watering Hole), Grant and Shirley (Covered Wagon),
and Terry Thompson (S.F. Eagle). We were able to
raise \$1,145 for the ICF treasury.

Without their efforts and voluntary contributions
of food/drink, we could not have held this annual
event. Again, our heartfelt thanks.

Rich Demarest
Independent Director of the ICF
San Francisco

Another Moving Day

★ I would like to respond to the May 28 letter of Jay
W. Linker. I had a similar experience with movers.

I got the name out of the B.A.R. I moved from Daly
City in March to the City. I called the movers and
made an appointment with the owner, who gave me
an estimate.

At this point, everything was in agreement. The
movers were supposed to be at my place at 11 a.m.
on moving day. First off, they were about 1 hour late.
The agreement was to send two men, but three showed
up. I didn't say anything at this time because I
felt that with three the move would take less time.

I was wrong! It took them all day to move bedroom,
dining room, and living room furniture—plus boxes.
I knew the minute they walked in they didn't know
what they were doing. After fooling around for five
hours, the truck was finally loaded. By then I had had
it. I asked them to let's get going because I was tired
since I had worked all night and I had to go to work
that night.

Then they told me that before they would finish
the job, it was time for lunch. I went on to my new
apartment to wait. They showed up about an hour
later. To my surprise, it seemed to take even longer
to unload. After everything was unloaded, I got the
bill. It was three times the amount I was quoted! Of
course, I didn't pay at this point. The next day I called
the office to speak to the person in charge. He came
out to the house and I thought we would get it
straightened out. I would pay the original price and
that would be the end of it.

But it didn't go like that. I turned in to a big argu-
ment, etc. In the end, I paid exactly what it was sup-
posed to cost at first.

I guess I'm saying the same thing that Jay was say-
ing. I assume that the majority of your advertisers
are gay and want to serve the gay community to the
best of their ability. In this case, it didn't happen like
that. This particular company I wouldn't recommend
to move a dog house!

JoAnne P. Thomas
San Francisco

Halcyon Days

★ Several months ago I was startled to read that Curt McDowell had AIDS. I meant to drop him a note but kept putting it off. Today I read the San Francisco Chronicle and learned Curt died on June 3. Sigh.

Curt and I were friends in those halcyon days of 1967-68. We hung out at the Big Basket (Market and Page) and the Capri on upper Grant. We did the Haight in full frumpy-dippy-hippy boogie. Fabulous costumes from Curt's vaudeville trunks made us the envy of everyone on the street and at the Old Fillmore (and the new one). Curt showed a remarkable talent for theater, drag and camp. We were only 22!

He sketched a vast number of portraits of the regular denizens at the Big Basket and they were assembled on the wall under the heading of "Rogues' Gallery." Inclusion in the gallery was the goal of anyone who aspired to be hip and "in" in the gay long-hair scene of which we were the leaders (at least so we thought).

Lots of acid trips, lots of "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band" and lots of gambling through Golden Gate Park gathering posies whilst we could. Curt worked at the Big Basket and the old Ritch Street Baths.

As the scene intensified, our group fell apart (mostly due to drugs). We wandered in various ways, but Curt persevered in his quest for the arts and majored in film at the S.F. Art Institute. We drifted apart but I followed Curt's progress and subsequent career as an underground filmmaker. I liked some of his work and disliked a portion. I found his obsession for straight men to be odd and tiresome.

The last time I saw Curt was at the Roxie ten years ago (or so) but he remained very much a part of me no matter what.

And now, like so many others, he is gone. I'll always remember his extraordinary joy, smiles and talent. I mourn the passing of that time now called "The Summer of Love" (we would have sneered at such a phrase). I mourn the passing of our youth and our idealism and most of all, I mourn the passing of Curt.

Well, dazzle 'em, Curt and say hi to the Boswell Sisters for me (and Janis, too...). Goodbye and good luck!

Don Hiemforth
San Francisco

Gay Archives

★ The May 28 letter of Stephen Johnson about the preservation of gay men's and gay women's diaries in an archive is of extraordinary historical importance.

The Gay Liberation Movement, with its outfront visibility, is the logical outgrowth of a Civil Rights Movement which gained momentum in the 1950s and extended through John F. Kennedy's assassination, the useless violence of Vietnam and the Watergate corruption of Nixon. The Gay Liberation Movement is the last evolution of the social hopes for a more just society.

Dr. Howard B. Gotlieb, the director of the Mugar Memorial Library at Boston University (771 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, MA 02215) is anxious to gather material for scholarly analysis of 20th century America.

On Feb. 25, 1986, Dr. Gotlieb wrote the following to me: "The Homophile Movement, through its various stages (1920-1980) should be documented as one of the important social movements of our time."

We have an obligation to all future Americans to preserve the materials which document the connection of the Gay Liberation Movement to the Civil Rights Movement.

The Mugar Library is a far better location for a national gay archive. Local gay historical societies lack the financial ability to preserve these materials for future generations. Foolish attempts by each local gay historical society to collect these materials will only insure that many primary resources will not survive into the 21st century.

I have never had any association with Boston University.

James F. Gibbons
San Leandro

Give Credit to Male Volunteers!

★ This letter was sent to People Magazine:

My conscience compels me to write you concerning your recent "Angels" story in People. AIDS has catastrophically beaten down the gay community on all levels. It's even been said that there are two epidemics ravaging gay people now: AIDS and the psychological consequences of AIDS.

Not the least of these consequences is the issue of gay men's self-esteem. The sense that we're whole, loving, clean human beings is in desperately short supply these days, so to heap disproportionate attention and praise on the minority of women who do vol-

unteer work with AIDS patients when the vast majority of "angel" work is done by gay men only reinforces the crippling notion that we're second class when it comes to caring for our own.

Rita Rockett's work is wonderful but what does it say about society's attitudes towards gay men and our own attitudes towards ourselves when the much larger number of gay men, many of whom selflessly volunteer much larger portions of their time to PWA's, are left as a mute backdrop to our women "stars"?

Gender stereotypes of both men and women too often rear their ugly head in our dealings with AIDS. Where are the heartfelt cries of appreciation to all the men doing what we would call Florence Nightingale work? (e.g. Bill Reese who organized The Most Holy Redeemer Neighborhood Practical Support Group on a full-time basis without pay while holding down another full-time job, Dr. Paul Volberding who's been called the Mother Theresa of Ward 5A, or any of the innumerable "ordinary" gay men here in San Francisco who volunteer much more time doing much more unpleasant work than the colorful Ms. Rockett.)

Not a day goes by when our hearts aren't broken anew by the suffering of our brothers. Please don't reduce us to second class citizenship in areas of the heart just because we're men. Sexism is a two-way street and gay men shouldn't have to suffer from that too.

John Morrison
San Francisco

Growth and Renewal

★ Liberated organized religion attracts me because it has political influence benefiting the oppressed, including gays and lesbians. Also, it has accepting social and meditative opportunities. Episcopalians are my favorites because, besides being great at religious drag, they respect the authority of an individual's conscience.

My spiritual quest started alone on a rock at my favorite beach. I still see that approach as exciting, fulfilling and real, but, eventually, one wants to share the quest. Fortunately, many groups and a few churches totally accept lesbians and gays.

With that said, here's what I recently wrote to many church publications and leaders:

Some people temporarily will be confused or upset by further inclusion of homosexual persons in religion and its ceremonies. While difficult, I submit such upset is part of the spiritual journey, eventually to be overcome and benefiting.

Walter Williams' anthropological study of North American Indians (*The Spirit and The Flesh*, etc., Beacon Press), also, volumes on socio-biology, and some religious studies and writings all point to homosexual people serving altruistically, spiritually.

I believe this altruistic contribution and its validation is an exercise of growth and renewal for all.

Steve Wynn
San Francisco

View From the Backside

★ The pundits have spoken. The medical authorities acclaim. Our only risk of catching disease (AIDS) is through anal sexuality.

One wonders if these brothers of mayhem, these doctors of dilatoriness neglect finally consulted the supreme authority on such matters—their mother—only to be told again not to touch (or play with) their rectums (they're dirty, idiot).

Although it happened to all of us too long ago to remember, this slap-handed message was perhaps our first encounter with—No, not sexual oppression—but rather human compassion towards childish ignorance which tends to believe, without benefit of hygienic reality, that whatever feels good must naturally be good, also.

That the medical profession with all its proclivity against dirt can render up negative proclamations against anal sexuality on the one hand, and on the other inform us that hygiene only makes the problem worse tends to make us wonder what cesspool these idiots are drinking from. It also confirms to all who are intelligent enough to make such discriminative judgements that modern medicine is so Christian upright about approaching the realities of such matters that ninety percent of us could be dying of proved constipation, and still these prudent professors of prudish morality would be unwilling to admit or accept that a little injected liquid relief might be better than dying from internal putrefication.

Steve Perkins
San Francisco

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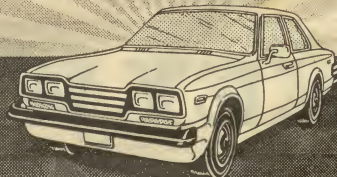
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Wayne Friday

Dismal Projections and Some Hope

Reports from the Third International Conference on AIDS held in Washington, D.C. last week confirm what many already knew—that the epidemic threatens to become the worst health crisis in modern history.

Up to 3 million people worldwide are expected to be diagnosed with AIDS over the next five years; between 5 and 10 million people are already infected with the virus, which leads to the fatal disease in 30-50 percent of those infected.

Dr. Jonathan Mann, head of the World Health Organization's AIDS program told the conference last week that "AIDS is a worldwide emergency. The disease will put our national conscience to the test."

Dr. James Curran, director of the AIDS program at the Centers for Disease Control, said that by 1991 AIDS will be the second leading cause of premature death in men aged 20-40. "All men," he said, "not just gay, bisexual or drug-using men." Curran said that one in 30 men in that age

range in this country are now infected with the virus and added that the number of AIDS cases may be as much as 20 percent higher than the estimate.

Scientists and health researchers in Washington last week were told also that AIDS is striking blacks and Hispanics disproportionately. Twenty-five percent of all AIDS cases are among minorities.

Despite the grave projections of what this epidemic means, there are still some among us who refuse to believe the statistics, preferring instead to bury their heads in the sand with the hopes that this nightmare might somehow go away. It isn't going to go away.

If one really wants to put this AIDS epidemic into perspective, try to grasp this: officials at the conference last week forecast that in San Francisco alone there will be 20,000 full-blown AIDS cases by 1990, three short years from now. This means an increase of some six or seven times more cases than this city now has. This deadly disease threatens to destroy the very fabric of life that we now know.

Despite the dismal projections given last week in Washington, there was, incredibly enough, a mood of hope. Though no one came close to announcing either a cure or a vaccine, there was a sense that the world had finally made a strong commitment to fighting the disease. In the race to solve the mystery of AIDS, top scientists who have previously jealously guarded their knowledge, now trade virus specimens and share techniques.

Commenting on these and other developments, **Dr. Mervyn Silverman**, former head of San Francisco's health department and now the president of the American Foundation for AIDS Research (AmFAR), said, "It looks like there's some light at the end of the tunnel. The problem is, however, we don't know the length of the tunnel."

In a bizarre development, **Rep. William Dannemeyer**, the anti-gay



U.S. Speaker of the House Jim Wright will be one of many to honor checkbook Democrat Walter Shorenstein Friday at the Fairmont Hotel. (Photo: Rink)

Fullerton congressman who once said that AIDS victims emit spores that cause birth defects, has placed an unusual garlic-and-cod liver-oil treatment for AIDS-related complex in the June 1 Congressional Record. **Dannemeyer**, who once said, "God's plan for man was Adam and Eve, not Adam and Steve," submitted the article written by L.A. author **Dale Alexander**. But the congressman claims he is not necessarily endorsing the garlic-and-cod liver-oil treatment as a cure for AIDS or ARC, but is simply saying "here's a view, why don't we look it over?"

The entry in the Congressional Record reads: "First, we must kill the dormant viruses in the bloodstream. We do this by taking a glass of water upon arising, with seven or eight generous squirts of liquid garlic; the garlic water should be followed 20 minutes later by an emulsion of cod liver oil and milk," **Alexander** wrote.

Elizabeth Taylor, one of the busiest and most sought-after people at the AIDS Conference in D.C. last week, told a packed luncheon at the National Press Club that the "timidity and indifference" of some of her Hollywood colleagues led, in part, to her commitment to the fight against AIDS.

"I won't tell you the names of some of the famous people who refused to have their names identified with AIDS fundraising, but it would blow your mind," **Taylor** said.

The national chair of the American Foundation for AIDS Research said the indifference of some of her Hollywood colleagues "so angered me that I finally thought to myself, 'Bitch, do something yourself instead of just sitting there getting angry!'" **Taylor**, who raised \$2.5 million in the past week for AmFAR, said she had become committed to the cause months before she learned that her long-time friend **Rock Hudson** had the disease. She is now devoting about 75 percent of her time to raising funds to fight the disease.

Mass. Rep. Barney Frank is telling the New York Times that his coming out of the closet recently has brought him support from his Washington colleagues across ideological boundaries. One of the first telephone calls came from **Sen. Alan Simpson** of Wyoming, the conservative Republican Senate whip, who congratulated **Frank** on his courage and wished him well. **Frank** says mail from his constituents has been supportive at a ratio of about 5 to 1.

In Davenport, Iowa, radio station WXL-FM responded to **Jerry Falwell's** appeal to save the PTL ministry last week by sending a total of \$27.5 million—in Monopoly money. **Citizens Against Religious Extortion (CARE)** included two 'Go Directly To Jail' cards.

With the endorsement last week of the Chinese American Citizen's Alliance, mayoral candidate **John Molinari** has now received the endorsement of all three major political organizations in the Chinese community. **Molinari** won the backing in April of the Chinese American Democratic Club and recently was also endorsed by the Chinese Six Companies (the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association).

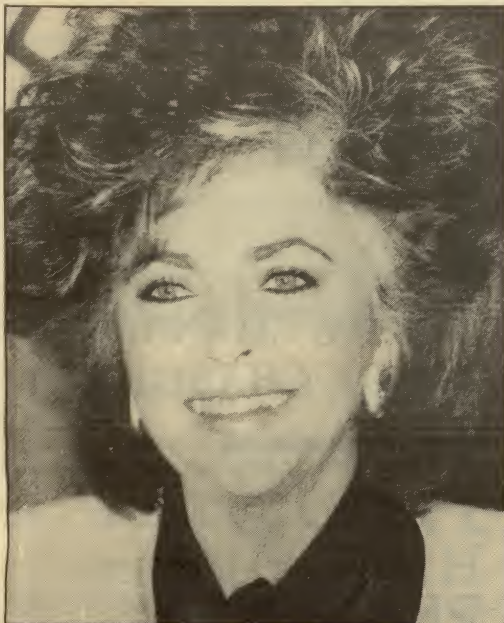
Bruce Decker, a gay Republican from Los Angeles who is chair of the California AIDS Advisory Committee appointed by **Gov. George Deukmejian**, has been proposed as a candidate for Ronald Reagan's new Presidential AIDS Commission by **Sen. Pete Wilson**.

On Reagan's proposed AIDS testing plan, **Decker** says: "As long as what the President has said is implemented in the spirit of what he said, if testing is routine as compared with mandatory, then I would support the direction in which he is moving. It represents a change in the direction the right wingers have been pushing him to go, to make testing mandatory."

Walter Shorenstein, one of the most important checkbook Democrats in the nation, will be honored at a daylong "mini convention" of national and local Democrats tomorrow (Friday, June 12), during a day-long con-fab at the Fairmont Hotel. **Shorenstein** will be the guest of honor at a dinner attended by House Speaker **Jim Wright** and a number of announced Demo presidential hopefuls.

The GOP, too, is having a party—the Republican Volunteer Clubs of San Francisco are having a reception "We the People" in honor of the 200th birthday of the Constitution at Castagnola's Restaurant on the Wharf next Thursday, June 18. **Clarence M. Pendleton Jr.**, chair of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, will be featured speaker (\$25, no host cocktails at 6:30, dinner at 7:30; contact **Wallace A. Myers** for tix or info).

Quote of the week—from The Washington Post on the proposed Presidential AIDS Commission: "There has been some argument over whether any self-avowed gays should be on such a panel. The answer is clearly they should, not because of some theoretical entitlement or affirmative-action principle, but because this is the group most affected by the disease and because it has much to tell the rest of society about dealing with AIDS. Without question, gay groups have been exemplary in caring for AIDS victims—including children—and in providing education within the community and encouraging it nationwide. To exclude this expertise deliberately would be not only a cruel thing to do, but a stupid one as well." ●



Elizabeth Taylor

(Photo: Rink)

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Kawasaki Kamakazi

"They're too dangerous," friends advised when I contemplated buying my first motorcycle. "You'll be sorry. You're going to have an accident."

"Hey, danger is my middle name," I replied. "I'll be okay if I'm careful. Besides, the way I see it, I don't have a choice."

I didn't have a choice because I was losing my parking privileges at Pier 39, where I work, and the only alternative to driving a motorcycle (which is free to park) was taking public transportation.

Now, I'm not above taking the bus when necessary, but waiting for a bus in the cold and fog at Pier 39 after midnight with wads of money burning holes in my pockets is, to me, beyond the pale of moral duty.

Besides, I've always wanted a motorcycle, just for the hell of it—to feel the wind whipping through my hair as I soar across the bridge at 90 miles an hour. "Yes," I promised my friends. "I'll be careful."

Consequently, one Saturday night on the way home from work, I picked up a copy of *The Auto Trader*, a magazine for used car sellers and buyers. I circled the likeliest prospects, and the next morning, I drove out to Geary and 40th to look at the best of the lot.

I immediately fell in love. Jay was a 22-year-old wrestler with tousled blond hair, luminous golden eyes, a beautiful smile, and a perfect, tight little body. His motorcycle wasn't bad either—a 1982 Kawasaki KZ305 (which he bought new in 1985) with only 4,000 miles and nary a scratch on it.

Although it was quite a bit smaller than what I wanted, Jay assured me that as a first bike and as a city bike, it was perfect. Ever a creature of impulse (and recognizing a good deal when I saw it), I decided to buy the thing on the spot—the first bike I saw. Jay gave me a few lessons, I wrote him a check for \$900, and that was that. I instantly became a member of the South of Market fraternity, a Knight in Black Leather (or, with a little help from the make-up kit, a Dyke on Bike).

The first day, I practiced driving around the Haight. The second, after purchasing a helmet, a lock, registration, and insurance, I drove all the way to work. The third, I thought I was good enough to bike to the beach. Dressed only in sandals,

gym shorts, a tank top, and the helmet, therefore, I took off for Black Sand Beach, across the Golden Gate Bridge.

On the way home, it happened. Seconds after I congratulated myself for negotiating the bridge and the Marin Headlands drive successfully, a car in front of me on Fulton Street screeched to a halt. I slammed on the brakes, and, before I knew what was happening, the bike slid out from under me one way, and I went flying in the opposite direction. The last thing I remember as I hit the ground was, "This is my skin that is being scraped off on the pavement. So much for the perfect tan this summer."

Fortunately, I did no major damage—no broken bones, deep punctures, concussions, or anything of that sort. And miraculously, the bike was almost unscathed. But the entire right side of my body was raw and bloody, and a trip to Kaiser Emergency Room was definitely in order. So, assuring those who had run to my aid that I really was okay, I hopped back on the bike and carefully made my way along the back roads to the hospital.

'Yes,' I promised my friends. 'I'll be careful.'

—Mike Hippler

There I was treated for multiple abrasions, told to take a week off from work, and warned about the folly of riding a motorcycle in so few clothes—or riding one at all. "Well, at least you had your helmet on," said one nurse. "That proves you aren't entirely brainless."

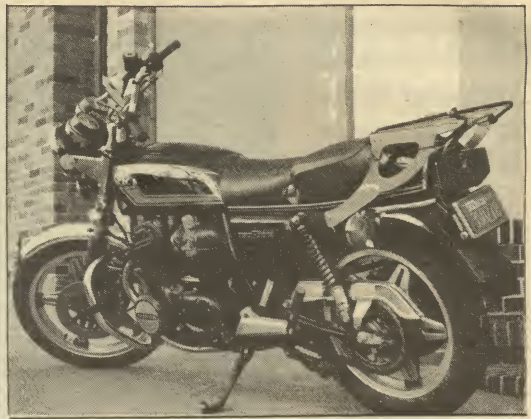
Naturally, I am rather peeved about all this. For one thing, it's costing me a good deal of pain and discomfort. It's also costing me a lot of money. And I'm not the only one who's peeved. My boss, for instance, must be losing patience with me by now. Two years ago, I broke my teeth skiing. Last year I hurt my knee playing soccer. Both times I missed work for significant periods of time. He can't be pleased with a jinx on the payroll. He must be wondering why.

It's a good question. I thought about it myself and concluded that I hurt myself so often because I live hard and take risks.

I live hard and take risks because I am extremely aware of my own mortality and am determined to make the best of what time I have on this planet. I do not have a great deal of guilt, I am not trying to punish myself for anything, and I certainly have no great death wish. I simply push myself to the limit and sometimes beyond.

Anyway, I ain't sellin' the motorcycle. I'll try to be more careful in the future, I promise, but I'm not giving up on the thing. It's just not my way.

So, in case you see a KZ305 coming your way, be warned. ●



'I instantly became a member of the South of Market fraternity, a Knight in Black Leather . . .'

—Mike Hippler



Evelyn Cisneros

Principal Dancer, S.F. Ballet

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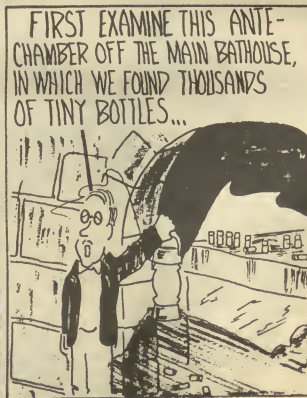
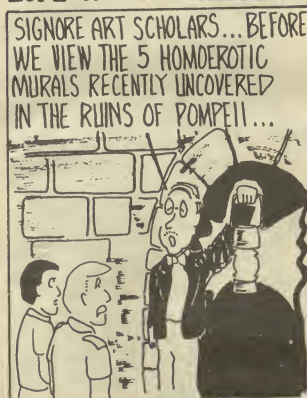
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LIFE AT THE CLOSET DOOR



Minnesota Tries To Cope With Gropes

MINNEAPOLIS—The Minnesota Senate says that it still apparently is okay to pat a fanny. But anyone caught groping clothed genitals could be sent away on a vacation to prison.

The state Senate recently gave preliminary approval to a bill that would create a new category of criminal sexual conduct, making it illegal to touch someone's clothed genitals or breasts without consent. The crime, criminal sexual conduct in the fifth degree, would be a gross misdemeanor, punishable by up to one year in jail and/or a \$3,000 fine.

The bill is a watered down version of a much harsher bill, thanks to the efforts of Sen. Allan Spear, an openly gay Minneapolis Democrat. Spear succeeded in removing a provision that would have included touching "clothed buttocks." Spear said that including that in the new law would be "simply overkill."

"I don't want anyone to think this is proper behavior," Spear said, "but sometimes we must make a distinction between behavior that is improper and unsocial and behavior that we ought to criminalize."

Gay activists in the Gopher State said they fear similar laws may be used by plainclothes officers to entrap gay men.

—The GLC Voice of Minneapolis

Boston U. Students Turn Their Backs On Rehnquist

BOSTON — To paraphrase Nancy Reagan, 60 students at Boston University said no to William Rehnquist.

Rehnquist, the crusty, conservative U.S. Supreme Court chief justice, was the commencement speaker at Boston U. While a person of Rehnquist's position would normally expect a courteous reception, 60 students had different ideas.

When it came time for Rehnquist to speak, memories of Rehnquist voting against making sodomy laws unconstitutional made it easy for the students to do something other than clap for the chap. They got up from their chairs and turned their backs.

—Gay Community News (Boston)

German Official Calls For Unity On European Borders

BONN, W. Germany—West German health minister Rita Suessmuth made a recent plea for a unified policy in Europe concerning people with AIDS trying to cross international borders. She told a press conference this kind of action was necessary to avoid confusion and conflict between European countries.

—CNA News Service of Taiwan

A Hero Is Born: Pillsbury's 'New' Dough Boy

BOSTON — The spirit of John Beresford Tipton lives on! Tipton, you may remember was the fictional multi-millionaire from the early days of television who gave away \$1 million each week. Now, there's a real live JBT in the form of George Pillsbury, the heir to the Pillsbury flour fortune.

Pillsbury has been handing out grants to progressive organizations. Gay and lesbian organizations have been among the beneficiaries of the generosity of Poppin' Fresh, Jr. Pillsbury started what he called the Haymarket People's Fund in Chicago to support advocacy groups. Among the groups benefiting are the Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights and the Alliance Against Women's Oppression. The fund doled out \$300,000 in grants last year.

—The Weekly News (Miami)

Oklahoma GOP Urges Quarantine, Work Restrictions

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Oklahoma Republican Party has come out in favor of a number of anti-gay measures during its recent state platform meeting. The Okie GOP wants a quarantine of people with AIDS. It also recommended that gays should not be allowed to work in restaurants. It also opposed AIDS education in schools and "safe sex" education in the mass media. Finally, the GOP called for the closing of all gay bars in the state.

Luckily for the state, Gov. Henry Bellmon, a Republican, isn't listening to the strident cries of the fundies within his party. Bellmon has called for state-supported AIDS education and sex education in general in the public schools.

The governor said his AIDS programs "might not be popular" with the party, but AIDS "is a dangerous epidemic" and "there's no point putting [education] off until [AIDS] is out of control."

—The Gayly Oklahoman

CEOs Resist Promoting Single Men

NEW YORK — The Wall Street Journal recently reported in a poll that homosexual employees are the least likely to earn promotions at the management-committee level. A poll of 351 chief executive officers revealed that two percent of those polled would hesitate to promote a divorced employee, one percent would hesitate to promote a female employee and a whopping 66 percent would hold back homosexuals.

"It's not natural," said Bill Billington, the CEO for Billington, Fox & Ellis, "for people to get past a certain age and not be married."

—The New York Native

UNQUOTE



"Jim Bakker just couldn't be a homosexual. He would never have allowed Tammy to wear that much makeup."

—Comedian ROBIN TYLER, talking about You Know Who (The Weekly News of Miami)

"It was an unfair call at the end, you just ask my fans! I demand a rematch if Big Tuna isn't too scared to face me. Next time we'll have a fair referee! Big Tuna, hah! Big Shrimp is more like it."

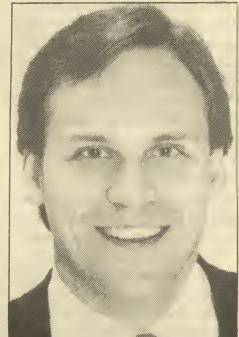
—Lesbian mud wrestler WONDER WOMAN explaining her defeat at the fins of another lesbian mud wrestler, BIG TUNA. (Gay Community News of Boston)

"The only wonder is how that woman lasted as long as she did! If she wants to lose to me again, I'm ready!"

—Lesbian mud wrestling champ BIG TUNA, telling eager reporters why she is No. 1. (Gay Community News of Boston)

"He ruled that we were neither benevolent nor charitable, and added that promoting the interest of gay people would never be charitable."

—TOM STODDARD, executive director of Lambda Legal Defense, remembering how New York's Secretary of State refused to give Lambda incorporation papers in 1972. (Seattle Gay News)



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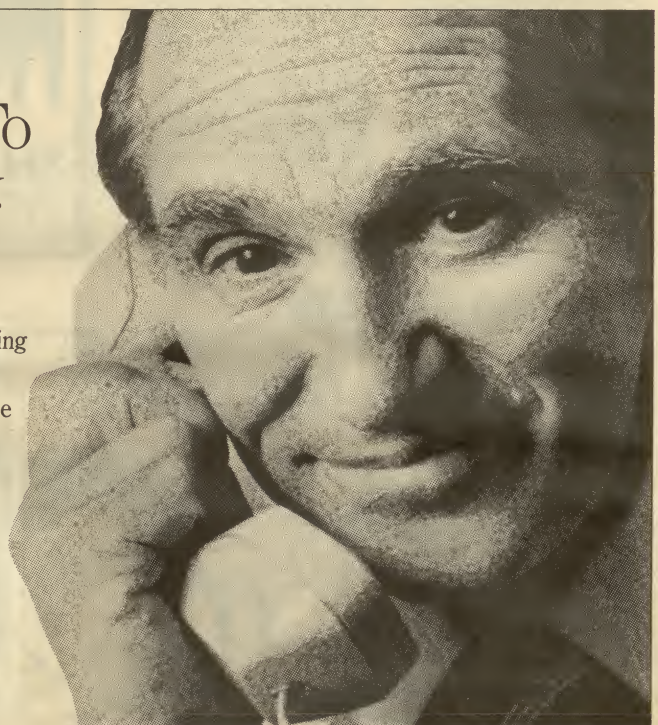
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San Francisco



Banquet May Garner \$500,000 in Aid & Comfort

by Allen White

Over 1,000 people paid \$250 each to attend the Aid & Comfort benefit banquet last Monday night at Fort Mason. Proceeds from the event may top \$500,000 to become Northern California's largest AIDS fundraiser.

Those attending the sold-out event heard a line-up of top rate entertainers. Linda Ronstadt, Boz Scaggs, Santana, Shirley MacLaine, Bobby McFerrin were joined by many other entertainers including surprise guest Joel Grey.

The event was the presentation of some of the leading San Francisco restaurants. The staffs of the restaurants donated their time and the food was donated. High quality wine came from some of the best vineyards in California.

Such entertainment giants as Bill Graham and Michael Smuin joined together to produce the entertainment portion of the evening. KQED aired a portion of the festivities in a telethon mode to increase the total money raised for the night.

Money raised last Monday night will be given to the AIDS Emergency Fund, Hospice of San Francisco, Project Open Hand, The San Francisco AIDS Foundation Food Bank, and the Shanti Project.

Because of the many name entertainers, the event became front page news and the subject of live television reports on all the local news programs.

With the participation by major personalities, Aid & Comfort is viewed by many as giving a new

perspective to fundraising efforts to fight AIDS. As the epidemic continues to grow, there appears to be a more wide-ranging acknowledgement that private funds must be raised to fight the crisis.

Monday it was noted that much of the money raised to fight AIDS has come from the gay community. In fact, a substantial number of people attending the Aid & Comfort dinner were from the gay community.

Organizers of the event said that people may still make contributions to the Aid & Comfort event. Transamerica Corporation has announced that it will match donations with its own contribution. For further information call 861-3663.



Shirley MacLaine

(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

Get Ready For Black & Blue 2

Reserve your tickets now for the party of the summer. The Black and Blue Ball II, a benefit for the AIDS Emergency Fund. On Midsummer's Eve, Sunday, June 21, at 7:30 p.m. a select group of ticket holders will ascend to the Starlite Roof of the Sir Francis Drake Hotel. There, with the city sparkling below, they will enjoy a gala evening of comedy, champagne, prizes and dancing.

The entertainment features the hilarious improvisational comedy of Faultline, as well as Linda Hill and Friends. Special guest, disc jockey Belle Nolan of KBLX-FM will act as emcee and provide music to keep you dancing.

During the evening an array of prizes will be given away. The grand prize is a one-week Hawaiian vacation for two, donated by The American Quest, Inc. travel services. Other prizes include champagne from Gloria Ferrer Winery, wine from the vineyards of George Saintsbury, and dinner for two at the popular Eddie Jacks, and other fine San Francisco restaurants.

Admission is a \$25 donation by advance order, or \$30 at the door—if available. Space is limited, so to assure yourself a great evening for a good cause, please call (415) 931-9768 today! Formal attire is requested.

**Shop Gay, Buy Gay:
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How Much Insurance Is Too Much?

by Allen White

Supplemental health insurance policies became the subject of controversy last week as a Millbrae insurance agent began mailings to the Castro area because he believes a large number of people at risk for AIDS might be interested in what he's offering.

Letters were received by many people in the Castro over the last month from Bud Jensen of the Service Center Inc. insurance agency in Millbrae. The mailer asked, "What about the 20 percent most health plans make you pay? What about the deductible?"

The mailer then says, "We may have the solution for you. A supplemental health policy that helps close up the gap."

What is being offered is an insurance policy from the American Integrity Insurance Company in Philadelphia. It is the same company that uses Ed McMahon as their spokesperson in advertising to senior citizens.

Ken Emery, an insurance agent at the Schmidt and Schmidt agency, questioned the need to purchase this type of insurance by people fearful of AIDS. "People should look very carefully to see if it truly fulfills a need and if it could disqualify a person for social benefits."

Emery noted that this type of insurance can give just enough benefit to disqualify a person from receiving government social benefits.

Emery also said that the coverage can be "almost worthless for a person with AIDS."

"The average hospital stay for a person with AIDS is now down to only 12 days," he said. "This type of insurance can give a sense

of false security."

He pointed out that the insurance policy described by Integrity has a maximum benefit in any one year of only \$1,000, with a deductible of \$200.

He also noted that skilled nursing facility confinement is rare for people with AIDS. "Most people will leave the hospital and either go home or to a hospice," he said.

Emery was quick to state that the Millbrae insurance agent had done nothing wrong in soliciting the insurance. In fact, the Service Center Inc. has been in business since 1928, and Bud Jensen, the person who sent the mailer, has been a licensed insurance agent since 1952.

Emery suggested that people "shop around" if they are interested in this type of insurance.

The coverage which is being offered by the Millbrae agent is written with provisions that no medical examination is needed and people cannot be singled out for cancellation or premium rate change because they grow older or subject many claims.

300,000 \$TRONG.

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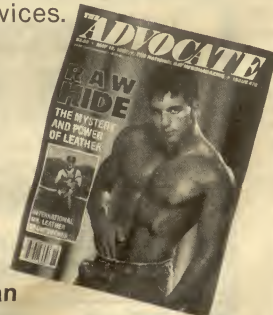
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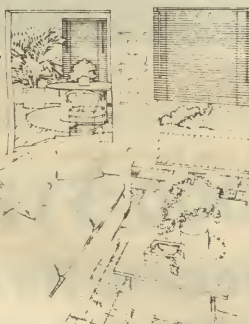
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Happy Birthday, Mr. Supervisor. Sharon McNight celebrates
Sup. Harry Britt's birthday with a big hug for the supervisor.
The gay-la affair took place on Thursday, June 4.
(Photo: Steve Savage)

Health Panel Holds Hearings On Women's Needs

The San Francisco Health
Commission will hold a special
hearing from 4 to 6:30 p.m., June
16, at 101 Grove St., Room 300,
to take public testimony on
women's health needs in San
Francisco.

The hearing is part of a con-

tinuing series of meetings the
commission has held in the com-
munity to hear ideas and opin-
ions about how the San Francis-
co Department of Public Health
can better serve city residents.

Topics may include why
women's health issues deserve
special consideration, the
demographics of women in San
Francisco, incidence of certain
illnesses among women and how
much money is being spent on
services pertaining to women. ●

Letters Needed On State Budget

We must act now to convince
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creased AIDS budget or we are
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budget that is woefully inade-
quate to deal with the escalating
AIDS epidemic.

We are fast approaching the
deadline for completing the
1987-88 state budget; it must be
signed and in place by July 1.

Sit down and write a letter to
Gov. Deukmejian. Ask him to
support a substantial increase
over his proposed \$39 million
budget. The Legislature is con-
sidering an AIDS budget that is
more than twice the amount of
the Governor's.

Address your letter to: The
Hon. George Deukmejian, Gov-
ernor, State of California, State
Capitol, Sacramento, CA 95814.

AIDS Mastery Workshop

A seventh AIDS Mastery work-
shop will be returning to San
Francisco on the weekend of
June 19, 20, and 21. The work-
shop is primarily for people with
AIDS, ARC and those whose lives
have been significantly impacted
by AIDS.

A free introductory evening
given by previous graduates of
the AIDS Mastery will be held on
Tuesday, June 16 at 7:30 p.m., at
a La Page Studio, 108C Fillmore
(one block from Duboce), in San
Francisco.

For more information, please
call 553-2511. ●

Coelho

(Continued from page 6)

debate between science and morality. And it was encouraging last week
to hear Bob Dole say the government should spend \$100 million or \$2
billion — whatever it takes — to stop AIDS. Of course, he wasn't very
specific.

And it's not surprising in the least to hear the right-wingers say
they've already decided to make opposition to the surgeon gen-
eral's recommendations their major litmus test for GOP candi-
dates in 1988. They'll try to frighten the American people. They'll pit
the San Francisco Democrats against the rest of the country. They'll
ask voters to look at AIDS and make a choice: Should we protect civil
liberties or protect public health?

You and I know the two aren't mutually exclusive. But we need to
tell that to the American people. And I would urge you to use the cam-
paign — it's not like you have any choice — as an opportunity to
educate the public and Members of Congress and to calm their irra-
tional fears.

I know what motivates Members of Congress and I know how to count
votes. That's my job. And right now there's not enough support for any
of the radical measures the radical right is proposing. But let me tell
you: there's nothing more dangerous than a group of panicked
politicians.

I would suggest several things: First, as with any issue that has broad
social implications, you shouldn't spend too much time worrying about
the left or the right. You've already got the Tony Coelhos behind you
and you can forget about the Pat Buchanans.

Instead you should reach out to the broad, moderate middle, the peo-
ple who lack enough information but are generally sympathetic. These
folks want to be helpful, but you've got to educate them.

But keep in mind that what I call the fear factor is at work here. Politi-
cians are often motivated by fear. And there's a fine line between mak-
ing people understand the urgency of a particular problem and creating
momentum for policy options none of us wants to see. Indeed, what
we need above all else is to calm the right-wing hysteria surrounding
this issue.

I want you to know that I'm personally committed to doing what-
ever I can to help. We can start working on specific members as soon
as you like. I also want you to understand that I appreciate the need
for action now. We can't wait until 1988, we're years behind already.
Congress needs to protect your jobs, your housing and your access to
insurance from the threats that exist today. And most importantly we've
got to pressure the president to get the bureaucracy moving. This is
the message I pledge to take back to Washington and to the Speaker
of the House. ●

Food Drive For Fndtn.

GGBA's second 1987 Food
Drive for people with AIDS and
the San Francisco AIDS Founda-
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June 27. Food donations can be
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below. Donations of canned
goods, juices, dry cereals and
paper products are very much
needed.

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4201 18th St.

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1967 Market St.

444 Castro St.

Gilmore's

1068 Hyde

Ixia Florist

2331 Market

Mid-Town Stationers

2231 Market St.

7-11 Store

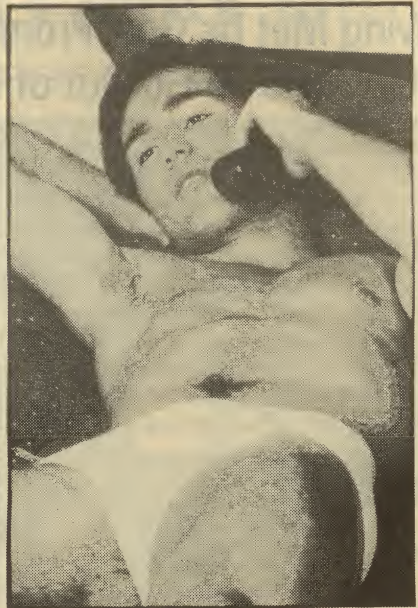
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Communication

Having Met Its Goal Promoting Safe Sex, STOP AIDS To Go Out of Business

by Mary Richards

It was billed as an "experiment in communication" when it began in 1985. Now, feeling their purpose has been accomplished, San Francisco's unique STOP AIDS Project is about to close its doors. In its two years of operation, the project helped gay men talk out their fears and hopes in the age of AIDS and used peer support to promote the practice of safe sex.

In the years since its inception, the powerful red and black emblem of the organization has come to symbolize, for many people, the will to survive within the gay male community of San Francisco. At the end of June, STOP AIDS will hold its last group meeting.



The Stop AIDS Project has been a part of past parades. (Photo: Rink)

It has not been an easy decision to bring the project to a close, but the staff and volunteers agree that their major goal has been achieved: research shows that the viral transmission rate in this city has dropped to less than one percent among gay men.

Larry Bye, one of the two men who began the project, had this to say. "I guess part of the problem is that it doesn't seem as if we've succeeded because too many people are dying. The fact that in 1987 we've got the AIDS epidemic under control among gay men isn't going to show up for years. It's going to start showing up in the '90s when we finally begin to see a decline and a leveling off in the numbers of new cases," says Bye.

"Then it will be much easier



Stop AIDS Project members Bill Day (left) and Steven Abbott (right). (Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

for everybody to feel as if they've done something. (Researchers) tell me that there is no documented group of any size, anywhere, that has responded the way gay men in San Francisco have to the AIDS epidemic," he adds.

Bye remembers the period in late 1984 when he and Sam Puckett, a consultant for the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, were involved in organizing focus groups as part of a research project. Men in those first groups discovered that just talking about the subject of sex was the catalyst for changing their entire approach to their lives.

The two project associates quickly realized the potential of the small group format, and made the decision to try a six-month experiment. They applied for funding from the city and were told they would have to reach 1,000 people in the first six months.

"We didn't know how we were going to recruit people. We didn't know that it would work. The community at that time was very sensitive," says Puckett.

"I think that what was happening at the time," recalls Bye, "was a tremendous appetite for self-examination among gay men. Even if the AIDS epidemic had never occurred, a lot of the changes that we see would have taken place. There was a sense on the part of many gay men as we came into the early '80s that as a community we were too sex-focused, there was too much impersonal, dehumanizing kind of sex going on and we had a big problem with substance abuse."

Twelve men, most of whom knew each other and were able to make a commitment to volunteer with the project for the next two years, were recruited as group leaders. Bill Day has led 50 to 60 meetings and has been with the project since its inception.

"I'm pretty well convinced after leading these groups," he says, "that the main differences between people having unsafe sex and safe sex are fear of talking about it, fear of dealing with the social consequences of it, and the fear of being vulnerable, as well as some fears of intimacy."

He speaks about how his early idealism was realized: "I wanted all my groups to be wonderful. If people came in feeling powerless, they would walk out feeling connected and powerful. People in the community now do feel powerful. They walk in having safe sex handled. They walk in with everything that people used to walk out of the meetings with."

Bill Folk, executive director of the STOP AIDS Project, explains

some of the more important aspects about the small group format. "People need to have an opportunity to express themselves and to feel safe in discussing how they feel. They need to look at themselves in a larger context within their community — and then to see how they can participate and make a commitment to ending the epidemic."

He points out the social problems within the gay community which have arisen during the last few years. "I think gay men have been incredibly isolated around AIDS and it has been very hard for us to talk about sex issues. For many people attending these types of meetings, it's the first time that they've really had an opportunity to open up and say what they've been feeling and thinking about — and to hear how, in a very honest way, other men are dealing with it."

"... the main differences between people having unsafe sex and safe sex are fear of talking about it, fear of dealing with the social consequences of it, and the fear of being vulnerable, as well as some fears of intimacy."

— Bill Day

For many it will seem strange to no longer see posters for the STOP AIDS Project in the Muni Metro and to know that they can now proceed along Castro toward Sunday brunch without being interrupted by street volunteers interrupting them to a group meeting.

Daniel Pike, who was a street captain for six months, expresses his feelings about working on the street. "I felt as if I was giving people the option to be alive. You're offering them a chance to communicate when they may have some doubt about what they are doing. There's an educational facility right there on the street in front of you."

Since the organization began, women have been volunteering in the office as well as on the street and as group leaders. Kate Perkins is one of 25 women involved in the STOP AIDS Project, and has often been asked why. "I would say that I was out there because I cared. And I felt it was important that I do something about it. If I want the world to look differently than it does at the moment, I need to do something, at least on a one-to-one basis, to change it."

According to Janet Saevitz, coordinator of the project's newsletter, the project has touched the lives of 30,000 people, 7,000 of

(Continued on page 23)



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Photos
by
Robert Pruzan



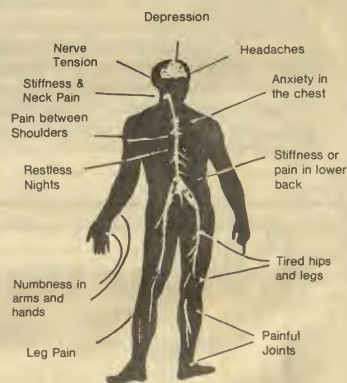
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Cranston Wilson Aides Hear Protests

CMJ Blasts Immigrant AIDS Test Vote

by Charles Linebarger

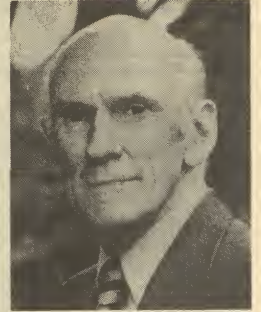
Thirty AIDS activists protested votes by California Senators Alan Cranston and Pete Wilson which will impose AIDS tests on all future immigrants. The activists, from Citizens For Medical Justice (CMJ) demonstrated outside the local offices of the two senators on Wednesday, June 3.

Gregg Kitchin, one of the protesters, told B.A.R. that when the group unfurled its banner in the hallway outside Wilson's office, Wilson aide Kevin Elliott became "frantic."

"I never made it into the senator's office," said Kitchin, "(Elliott) told us we were focusing on the negative aspects and not giving the senator credit for the positive things he was doing. He was trying to portray Wilson as being right up there in the AIDS fight. But we weren't buying that and he was completely flustered."

John Belskus, another CMJ demonstrator, described the Senate vote (96-0) as an hysterical one. "It was a wave of hysteria that Jesse Helms (R-NC) took advantage of because he only sponsored this bill calling for mandatory testing of immigrants and people in federal prisons just days after (Pres. Ronald) Reagan's speech (at the May 31 fundraising dinner for the American Foundation for AIDS Research (AmFAR) in Washington)," said Belskus. "Cranston and Wilson got caught up in the hysteria."

"We don't see this as being that controversial," said Elliott. "The vote was 96-0. That is sig-



Citizens For Medical Justice wasn't happy with the votes of either Sen. Pete Wilson (left) or Sen. Alan Cranston. (Photo at left: Rink)

nificant. He (Wilson) voted to add AIDS to the list of diseases to be tested for in order to immigrate to this country. That adds AIDS to the tests for three diseases we already require."

Elliott added that the bill did not include tests for federal prisoners. He noted he was glad the demonstration was short and nondestructive. "That's not always the case when people come unannounced and en masse," Elliott said.

After visiting Wilson's office, the demonstrators moved on to Cranston's office. Here the entire group was ushered into the senator's office by aide Jo Cuny.

"Jo Cuny came out," said Kitchin, "to talk to us. We were received very well there and I think she was anxious to tell us he (Cranston) was our friend. Of course, we were there to complain, not to be told he was our friend."

A source at Cranston's office said that Cranston had not fought the AIDS testing bill for two reasons. First, it was a provision of a larger bill, the 1987 supplementary appropriations bill that allocated \$30 million for the states to enable them to provide AZT to their indigent citizens. To veto the testing was in effect to veto the AZT appropriation.

A source at Cranston's office also said he had not fought the testing provision for another reason, because the vote was moot. Reagan already has the power to require AIDS tests for immigrants to this country and has announced his intention to require them.

But said Belskus of the talk to trade testing for AZT, "That's making civil rights hostage to our medical needs and we won't accept that. If you do that often enough, you turn around one day and you realize that you don't have any civil rights left." •

AIDS Claims Music Critic Jerry DeGracia

by Allen White

Jerry DeGracia, a writer for the Bay Area Reporter, died Monday in San Francisco. His death at the UCSF Medical Center ended a year and a half fight against AIDS. DeGracia began his column, called Tone Deaf, in 1980 to comment on contemporary music and its effect on San Francisco's gay community.

He used his writings to discuss the impact of a wide range of artists including Sylvester, Nina Hagen, Jeannie Tracy, Divine and Grace Jones. The significance of local record labels such as Megatone, Moby Dick and 415 were often brought to the attention of the public.

DeGracia had graduated from the University of Arizona with a degree in journalism. He used his writing skills to communicate his love for music. He collected thousands of records and frequently attended rock music concerts to gather information for his column.

In 1981, DeGracia was instrumental in the formation of a committee to recognize outstanding achievement by recording artists at the Cable Car Awards. Each year the organization presented awards to honor Bay Area gay performers. DeGracia created the voting system which allowed local gay disc jockeys in the Top 25 record pool to name the best dance recording played in San Francisco clubs.

A second category was also created which gave the opportunity to introduce the Cable Car audience to such performers as

Meg Christian, Cris Williamson and Margie Adams.

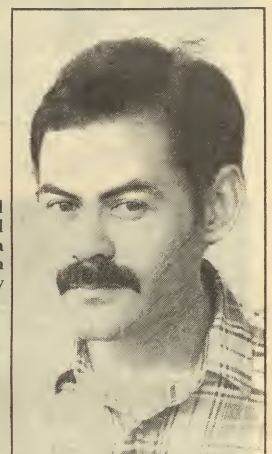
For 12 years Tom Scruggs and Jerry DeGracia were lovers. They lived and worked together, first in Southern California and then in San Francisco.

DeGracia also developed his knowledge of computers and was the supervisor for computer operations at a San Francisco law firm.

DeGracia's diagnosis with AIDS became a challenge and a commitment to fight the disease at its most personal level. At the time he said he was not sure he would live three months. To the amazement of his doctors and his friends, he survived over 20 months.

Both Jerry and his lover Tom continually lived a philosophy that rejected any attempt to accept defeat. They believed that a person with AIDS should not be a victim.

Last Monday morning he was admitted to the UCSF Medical Center. In the afternoon he went into a deep peaceful sleep. At 7:30 he stopped breathing. At his side were many of his friends, his lover and his mother, Florence

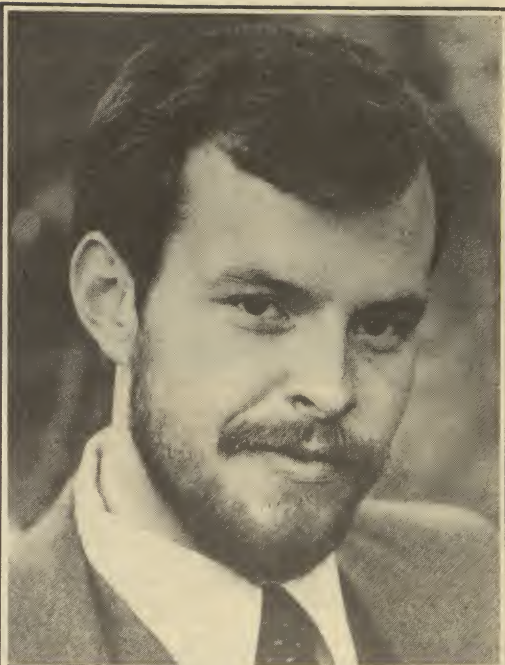


(Photo: Rink)

DeGracia. He was 35.

Funeral services will be held Friday morning, June 12, at Cole & Maud Funeral Home, 410 W. Roosevelt, in Coolidge, Arizona. He requested that there be no funeral in San Francisco. "When I die," he said, "if people want to do something, I hope they have a party at Castro Street Station and I hope Rita Rocket is dancing on the pool table." Those plans to party are in progress. •





Robert Barnes

(Photo: Rink)

Toklas Club Goes For July Endorsement

Many Sign Up in Last 30 Days;
Members Complain of Railroad

by Charles Linebarger

The Alice B. Toklas Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club jumped into the already heated mayoral race this week. At its general meeting June 8 club members moved to speed up the process for a mayoral endorsement. By a vote of 113 to 46, the club voted to endorse a candidate at its next general meeting, July 13.

One hundred new memberships were also turned in to the club at the June 8 meeting, according to Toklas president Roberto Esteves. In the previous month another 95 new members had joined up. Esteves said that about 30 renewals a month is the average. The influx of new members, which almost doubled the club's previous membership, was credited to people wanting to vote in the club's mayoral endorsement.

Political analyst Bruce Pettit told Bay Area Reporter that it was a "very unusual" situation to be getting even 50-100 new memberships in a 30-day period. "That means someone is recruiting for a special purpose. The purpose would be to get the new members to vote in a way advantageous to a particular candidate," said Pettit.

The club's political action committee voted June 3 to recommend an early endorsement in July. But at this week's general meeting Robert Barnes complained that many of those voting for speeding up the endorsement process had been members for less than a month and were not qualified to vote.

SECRET BALLOT

That led to an acrimonious debate as to whether the club should accept the committee's recommendation.

Said Bill Paul, a co-chair in the Molinari campaign, "This year we have a speeded up mayoral race. The majority of clubs have already endorsed. If Alice really wants to play a role in this race we have to make an endorsement. I say we approve the political ac-

tion committee report. It's the normal procedure."

However, Becky Benoit, a deputy sheriff and representing the club's women's caucus, had problems with the early endorsement. "Perhaps we haven't gotten the incentives and promises some of you guys have gotten," she said. "We don't think we should give away the whole ball of wax at this time. Alice has always stood for democratic procedures."

Phyllis Lyon also spoke in favor of speeding up the process. "There's no question but that we can get our questions answered by the candidates in July at our next meeting."

But Robert Barnes then asked how the candidates debate, which the club had voted to hold at last month's meeting, can be held if the club makes its endorsement at the very next meeting.

Agreeing with Barnes was Jeff Jones, saying, "This process is being rammed down the throats of this club because certain people in the club think they are going to get something out of it. It's a total sham."

A secret ballot followed resulting in a vote of 113-46 in favor of making an endorsement at the July meeting.

Rick Pacurer, past president of the Harvey Milk Club, which took heavy criticism last month for its early endorsement of Assemblyman Art Agnos for mayor, was highly critical of the evening's vote. "I think it's astounding that the people who were most critical of our process in the Milk Club were the people in the forefront of a more questionable process in their own organization." •

Task Force Votes \$10.5M For S.F. AIDS Research Site

Deukmejian Must Okay Grant

by Charles Linebarger

The last pieces in the puzzle are being put into place to create a world class AIDS research facility in San Francisco. Backers of the proposal to build the center at S.F. General Hospital say the new laboratory would rival the Pasteur Institute in Paris where French scientists first discovered the HIV virus.

A state AIDS task force committee voted on Friday, June 5, to approve a \$10.5 million grant to build the center. The money is part of \$87 million in proposed AIDS spending this year. It still must be approved by the two houses of the legislature in Sacramento and must be signed by Gov. George Deukmejian. Capital sources feel the measure will be approved.

Over \$1.5 million will go to produce working plans for the best possible lab construction. And then \$10.5 million will go into the center's construction. The lab is planned to be built as an additional two floors on a building already in use at S.F. General.

According to Mike Bosia, State Sen. Milton Marks' legislative coordinator, funding for the research center will come from a variety of sources. "They will be bidding for research grants from state, federal and private sources just like everyone else," said Bosia.

When asked what effect the creation of an AIDS research center in San Francisco will have in the overall war against the epidemic, Bosia said, "This center will be in the forefront of AIDS research efforts around the world. It will lend a lot of credibility to research into treatment for people with AIDS, given that the lab will have access to one of

the largest AIDS treatment centers in the world at S.F. General."

Bosia noted that the new research center would include some of the foremost AIDS scientists in this country including Dr. Jay Levy ("the third person to isolate the AIDS virus") and Dr. Paul Volberding ("the major person in the treatment of AIDS in the world").

"So this lab will certainly be in the top three," he added.

Levy said he has already sent in his resume with the hope of becoming the center's first director. The AIDS researcher told B.A.R., "We've been working under very crowded conditions. We haven't been able to look into new directions of viewing the virus and there is a lot more work to be done which requires more space and funds."

"If they build the lab it will be terrific, that's all I know," Levy added.

Deukmejian had originally asked for \$42.5 million in AIDS spending this year starting on July 1, but the legislature has proposed spending twice as much to fight the epidemic.

Deukmejian spokesperson, Kevin Brett said it is too early to determine whether the governor will sign the appropriation bill. It has yet to be approved by both houses of the legislature. •



'We've been working under very crowded conditions . . . If they build the lab, it will be terrific . . .'

—Dr. Jay Levy

(Photo: Rink)

Dignity Convention Opens July 23

Members of Dignity/USA, the organization of gay and lesbian Roman Catholics and their friends, will gather from July 23 to 26 for their Eighth Biennial Convention at the Sheraton Bal Harbour Hotel in the Bal Harbour area of Miami, Florida.

Their agenda will include preparations for the upcoming visit of Pope John Paul II scheduled for September, 1987.

The theme of the convention is "Celebrate the Freedom of the Children of God," and the keynote address will be given by Dr. John Boswell of Yale Univer-

sity, noted historian and author of *Christianity and Social Tolerance: Gay People in Western Europe from the Beginning of the Christian Era to the Fourteenth Century*. Boswell will relate his discovery of early Church services that united same-sex couples.

For further information, registration, etc., call or write Dignity/USA Convention, 1500 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Suite 11, Washington, DC 20005, or phone (202) 861-0017. •

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Jim Bakker Says He's Not Gay As Falwell Resorts To Homophobia

It's An Old Theme For Jerry

by Allen White

Maybe Heaven can wait. But Rev. Jerry Falwell seemingly can't wait to completely ditch Jim and Tammy Faye Bakker from the PTL ministry, using a gay subplot in the process. And, U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese can't wait any longer, either. He wants to investigate the financially-troubled PTL.

Falwell has resorted to an old theme of his, homophobia, to try and wipe out the Bakkers, who would love to regain their PTL Club. This theme has pushed Falwell into positions of power before. Now, he's using it to pound away at Jim Bakker.

Falwell said last week that he and other fundamentalist leaders had been given taped testimony that Bakker has engaged in homosexual acts. Bakker denied the charge. He also challenged any people making such charges to come forward with their evidence.

So far neither Falwell nor any of his allies have delivered proof about Jim Bakker. What has been presented, according to Bakker, are charges that he gave a man a "homosexual glance."

Gary Smith, a former officer of PTL, alleged that a nude Bakker made homosexual advances to him. Bakker would appear to have had lousy luck in picking up a trick, if that was the intent. All stories released indicate that the people never actually had sex.

The controversy was first started by a Chattanooga evangelist John Ankerberg. He appeared on Cable News Network's Larry King Live show and leveled the charges of homosexual activity.

NEWS ANALYSIS

However, Texas evangelist Mike Evans said last week that Ben Armstrong, a PTL director, told him on April 28 that Ankerberg had nothing to support the accusations that he (and later Falwell) made against Bakker.

"Ben said, 'I told Jerry that John Ankerberg doesn't represent anybody. He's hurting the cause of Christ,'" related Evans. The Texan added that Armstrong quoted Falwell as saying, "I don't believe Ankerberg has the evidence. He can't prove anything. We all know that."

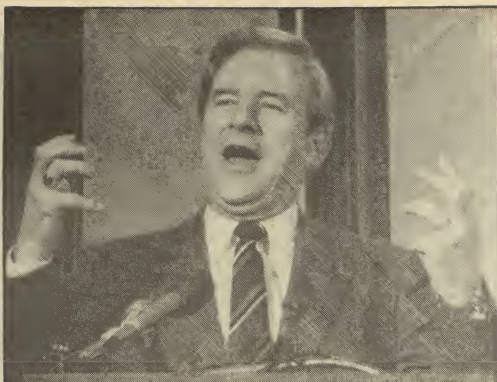
Bakker denied that he was gay. However while he told ABC-TV's Nightline that he thought he was not gay, this was not meant to be a putdown of gay people.

The comment pointed out a significant difference between Bakker and Falwell. Bakker has consistently refused to be

judgmental toward gay men and lesbians. During his PTL Club television shows, he said he believed gay people might be "hurting" and that ministry was available to them.

Falwell, on the other hand, has often resorted to gay baiting during his ministry. In the late 1970s, for example, he raised money for Anita Bryant, a guest on one of his shows.

When the AIDS crisis began, Falwell used panic type mailing



Rev. Jerry Falwell wants to make sure Jim and Tammy Faye Bakker can't regain control of the PTL ministries. (Photo: Mick Hicks)

material with pictures of people with hospital masks to pitch for financial contributions. He carried them into the 1984 Democratic Convention in San Francisco.

The plot is bound to thicken in future weeks for the PTL. On Tuesday, June 2, Meese announced he will coordinate inquiries by

six government agencies into the alleged financial wrongdoings of the PTL ministry. Joining Meese in the investigation will be the Internal Revenue Service, the U.S. Postal Service, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. attorneys in South Carolina and North Carolina and the South Carolina Tax Commission. ●

Gay Composers Present Pride Concert

The Society of Gay and Lesbian Composers presents *Music and Well Being* on Sunday, June 21, at 4 p.m., at the Colorbox Gallery, 541 Hayes St., San Francisco. A donation of \$5 will benefit arts workshops for people with AIDS run by Artists for Community Life, who are sponsoring the concert in conjunction with their Art and Well Being exhibition.

The concert will feature the premiere of Robert Chesley's *Theme with Variations* on a poem by James Agee, sung by soprano Rebekah Levy and accompanied by Steve Key, piano.

Other first performances will include the *Sonata* by Mark Koval, for violin (Steve Damron) and the composer on piano, and excerpts from Jon O'Bergh's *The Ghost Poem*, text by Linda Gregg, for alto, percussion and piano.

Matthew McQueen and Karl Brown will sing their familiar song "Killer Purses" and a new song "Cross the River," to a taped synthesizer accompaniment. Returning will be Louis Sacriste's *Duo* for flute and violoncello (Gail Edwards and Gwyneth Davis) and Jane Geren's *Opus #1* performed by pianist Stephen Damonte, who with Valerie Tisdell will present *Three Pieces for Violin and Piano* by Tchaikovsky, SGLC's unofficial honorary composer in the public domain.

This will be the second Gay

Pride Week concert given by the SGLC with Artists for Community Life. Other activities last year included the Cable Car Award-winning Gay Games II Inaugural Concert sung by the S.F. Lesbian/Gay Chorus, and a spring concert broadcast by KQED-FM with composers' interviews in their regular classical music programming. A fall concert is in the works. The SGLC meets the third Thursday of each month (June 18) at 7:30 p.m., at Mr. Natural's Electronic Classroom, 1911 Hayes, San Francisco. All composers are welcome. ●

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Larry Dunn

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Larry found peace ending a nine-month battle with AIDS he fought with grace.

Originally from Escondido, CA, Larry lived in San Francisco for seven years. In 1985 his career drew him to Chicago, along with his partner, Scott Larsen.



Missing him will be Scott, Rick and Craig, Fritz and a circle of loving friends. His warmth, wit, intelligence and culinary skills will be fondly remembered.

There will be a gathering of friends to celebrate Larry's memory on Saturday evening, June 20. Please call Rick at 864-4059 for information. ●

who took care of him at home through his illness, and the volunteers of Shanti and UNA. His ashes were distributed at sea by his family and close friends, and a memorial service held June 9 at St. Emydius Church. Fly free, my love. ●

George Daniel Cano

George Daniel Cano was born September 22, 1942 and departed from this life May 28, after a long, courageous battle with AIDS.



A singer, dancer, director, choreographer and teacher, George had been active in the performing arts all of his life. He earned a Bachelor's from UCLA, a Master's from Oregon and was A.B.D. on his Doctorate

from Colorado at the time of his death.

He will be remembered by his former students at S.F. State, Utah and Colorado as a demanding, but understanding perfectionist. For those who knew him well he will be remembered for his keen intellect, his sense of humor, and his compassion for his fellow human beings.

He will be deeply missed by his lover of 12 years, his mother, sister, brother, and his many friends.

Break a leg, George! ●

David Winterhalter

David Winterhalter died peacefully in his sleep at home on May 16. After a long and valiant battle with HIV infection, Dave was felled by progressive nerve damage that was unresponsive to all forms of treatment. Dave was an engineer, a farmer, an outstanding pilot and a loving, caring man who quietly tended to sick friends and raised foster children. In his last years, he worked directly with

Project Inform and was a hero to thousands of people for his clarity of thought, his willingness to listen, and his selfless work in reducing the cost of treatment. He will be remembered by people throughout the nation as "the guy wearing the green dot" on the streets of Tijuana, who saved them nearly a million dollars in eight months.

He fought against false hopelessness and pried open the minds of many scientists and doctors who finally came to accept and promote his point of view. Throughout his efforts to give hope to the rest of us, Dave knew that he had started too late to save himself and gave his final energies on our behalf. His parting admonition was the one he gave us in life: get tested and get treated as early as you can. ●

Alan G. Grant

Alan G. Grant, a resident of San Francisco for many years, passed away in Los Angeles on May 8. Services and interment were conducted at the Los Angeles National Cemetery. Alan was raised in

Ohio, served in the United States Army in Vietnam, returned to California and San Francisco State University. He served in senior financial positions at Alameda Federal Savings, United Savings Bank and Hamilton Savings. Alan was active in Concerned Republicans and GGBA.

He spent the final months of his three-year battle with AIDS in the Pacific Palisades with his family. During this period, Alan tapped a reservoir of hidden strength in himself that inspired all of us. He is survived by his mother, Zora Grant; his aunt, Fern Larsen; his brother Dennis, all of Los Angeles, and many loving friends. ●



John 'Lail' Andrews

John "Lail" Andrews, 44, died peacefully at home on June 2. He was born in Seattle, WA, and raised in Nebraska and Wyoming.

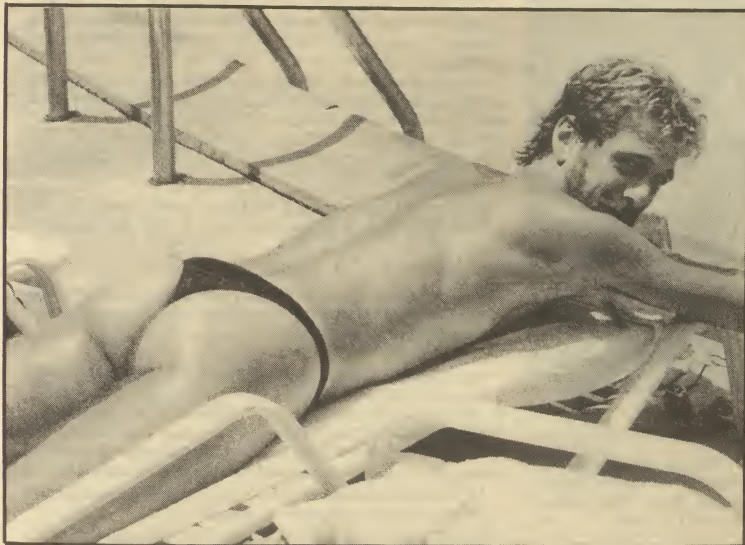


He lived in San Francisco since 1970 and founded Andrews Management Services. Lail will be especially remembered for his loyalty and devotion to his family, friends and clients, and the joy he brought to

their lives. He lives with us forever.

Special thanks go to his father, Ken, his best friend Steve, and all his other friends

BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS



Peek-a-boo! This young man shows off the swimsuit geared for that "all over tan." He was one of many bartenders enjoying sun and spirits at a bartenders' bash at The Woods resort on Wednesday, June 3.
(Photo: James Dusch)

Is Sonoma Ready For Gay Pride?

Gay Community Split on Issue; Sups Deny Proclamation

by Gregory Douthwaite

Rural Sonoma County will hold its first annual gay pride celebration this month. About 100 people are expected to show their faces at the controversial event—a picnic in the park.

"I think Sonoma County is ready for something like this," said Adam Richmond, a member of a gay group called Forward Together. "We've never had a gay pride celebration in this county. It's the first step towards bringing a unified consciousness."

County officials are not so sure that gay pride is politically correct. The board of supervisors has refused to issue a proclamation endorsing the celebration. Board chairman Ernie Carpenter said he was concerned the issue would be used against him in his re-election campaign. Sonoma County is well known to be a very conservative area.

Supervisors said they had gotten irate phone calls from members of the religious community, who were mortified by the celebration and wanted it stopped.

Some gays are also against "rocking the boat" by openly supporting gay pride. Guerneville resident Alan Yates wrote a letter to the Russian River News saying, "Pushing gay pride at the people! Grow up and get serious; all they want is your money."

The idea for the celebration came from Magi Fedorka, one of the founders of Forward Together. She said the idea came to her last January, when the group was founded.

The idea seemed timely, Fedorka said, because "we are dealing with some overt homophobia." The plans were brought before the board of supervisors this month during a meeting with gays.

Gays were angry that the coun-

ty had ordered a group of gay men to obtain permits for a May Day gathering of "radical faries" on Moonstone Ridge near Guerneville. They said the county was responding unfairly to homophobic complaints about the gathering. County officials said water supplies and sanitation facilities were inadequate for the expected crowd.

Permits were never obtained, but the gathering was held anyway. When four sheriff's deputies descended on the gathering, they found six gay men sipping tea on the floor. Deputies left, admitting that the complaints were ridiculous.

Gays were also angry about increasing anti-gay violence in Sonoma County. One man was arrested recently for dumping a dead rabbit outside the Rainbow Cattle Company, a Guerneville gay bar.

Another man was arrested for threatening a woman with a tire iron. The man said the woman had cut him off in her car, and he had mistaken her for a "fucking faggot."

Supervisors tried to assuage activists, noting that the sheriff had increased patrols in the Russian River area in response to complaints. Carpenter said he was aware that the AIDS crisis

had fostered anti-gay sentiment and certain acts of violence.

However, they refused to even consider endorsing the celebration. Carpenter said that pressure for official recognition of the event "may even be counterproductive." He said if he endorsed the event, citizens might elect a more conservative supervisor in his place.

"They really perceive that Sonoma County is not ready, that it is too conservative," said Fedorka. "There is a history of not supporting minorities here—they don't celebrate Martin Luther King day."

The pride celebration will go on, even without official recognition. The picnic, scheduled for Saturday, June 27, will be held at Spring Lake Park, near Santa Rosa. The barbecue begins at noon.

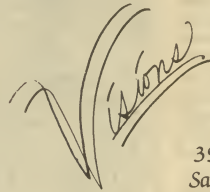
'Faces of AIDS' Exhibit Opens

The Faces of AIDS photo exhibit brings home the human reality behind the headlines. The images are strong, determined, almost radiant with hope, in the 60 portraits of persons with AIDS in stark black and white, simple statements that remind us of the human dimension lost beneath the news coverage and controversy.

You are invited to view one of the most moving photography exhibits you'll ever see: Jim Wigler's Faces of AIDS at a preview and fundraising reception, Monday, June 15, 5:15 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the San Mateo County Government Center, Redwood City.

All proceeds from the fundraising benefit will go to ELLIPSE, a San Mateo County AIDS treatment and hospice facility and to the Faces of AIDS exhibit. The exhibit has been sponsored in part by BillyBlue Menswear, Ken Maley of San Francisco and the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors.

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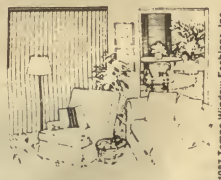
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Mamie Van Doren Is LA's Grand Marshall

WEST HOLLYWOOD — Christopher Street West/Los Angeles announced that actress Mamie Van Doren will be the Grand Marshall for the 1987 Gay Pride Parade, which will take place on Sunday, June 28.

Van Doren, best known for her string of fun and fanciful movies in the 1950s, as well as her blonde bombshellish beauty in the ranks of Jayne Mansfield and Marilyn Monroe, was the first Hollywood celebrity to address the AIDS issue when the virus first exploded across the gay community in 1983.

That same year, she headlined the first fundraising event ever held to fight against AIDS, which was sponsored by the then-newly established AIDS Project Los Angeles.

Van Doren realized the critical need to draw attention to the deadly epidemic and volunteered her help — despite the obvious risk to her career in an image conscious industry. She appeared in a whole series of fundraisers, and the following year was the first Hollywood personality to ride with AIDS Project Los Angeles in the 1984 Gay Pride Parade.

Ms. Van Doren has just completed her autobiography, entitled *Playing the Field*, which will be released in August of this year.

The parade will begin at 12 Noon at Crescent Heights and Santa Monica Boulevard. It will proceed west along Santa Monica to the Robertson-Doheny area. All traffic will be re-routed around this portion of Santa Monica starting at 8 a.m. Sunday until approximately 3 p.m.



Mamie Van Doren

For additional information on this year's parade and festival, please contact Christopher Street West/Los Angeles at (213) 656-

1227. Written inquiries may be addressed to: 7985 Santa Monica Boulevard, Suite 109-24, West Hollywood, CA 90046. •

Army Slaps GI With Assault Charges

FORT HUACHUCA, AZ — The U.S. plans to court-martial a soldier on charges of aggravated assault for having sex with three people after learning he was carrying the AIDS virus.

Pfc. Adrian G. Morris, 27, is expected to stand trial this month. One Army spokesperson said this is apparently the first such case

to go to trial in U.S. military or civilian courts. No trial date has been set yet.

Col. William R. Harnagel, garrison commander, said on Wednesday, June 3 that Morris would be tried on three counts of aggravated assault involving two other soldiers, one count of sodomy and three counts of "conduct of a nature to bring discredit upon the armed forces."

—The San Francisco Examiner

Nez Pas

Press The Crinolines — It's Prom Time!!!

RIDOTTO MARGRAVINE, MICHELLE? (A "Crowned" Nose?)

This is the month for proms. Every high school and college follows the annual tradition. Not to be outdone, Big Mama's joins the wont this weekend.

So rent that tuxedo, fluff up that merry widow, press those crinolines, and shine your shoes because on Sunday, June 14 — Flag Day and yours truly's birthday! — Big Mama's will be host to "No Class '87 Prom" with bartender Michael "reigning" as Prom Queen.

One feature of this gala afternoon will be live entertainment by Lose Bruce Kerr at 4 p.m.

There will be voting for King and Queen of the prom for 50 cents a ticket. Proceeds from the voting will go to the East Bay Assistance Fund.

AN EMENDATION! (A "Righting" Nose)

Newscasters, D.J.s, and one-on-one conversationalists have the advantage of saying, "Scratch that," when an error has been orated. Daily columnists have the advantage of making any necessary corrections the very next day.

But what about us who appear only once a week? Once an item has been put to print, it takes seven whole days before any alteration can be attempted. One saving grace is that perhaps the reader won't remember; but, alas, that chance can't be taken. Case in point, the Barbecue Feast at Revol. I had been told one date, and by the time my column was delivered, that date had been changed (reason to follow*).

*(The reason? Gaylord's "Father's Day" Brunch on Sunday, June 21. They didn't want to hog the weekend!)

So, here's the fresh poop (sorry, Mark F, I couldn't resist!): The June Barbecue Feast at Revol will be Friday, June 26. There will be two seatings only; one at 7 p.m., and one at 9 p.m. The menu consists of b-b-q chateaubriand, baked beans, corn on the cob, a glass of champagne, and dessert all graciously donated and cooked by Robert Palm. This "al fresco" repast is only \$7.50 per person, and tickets are limited. All proceeds from the dinner will go to the East Bay Assistance Fund.

Tickets are available from Revol, Town & Country, and Big Mama's. Save those stubs, as there will be door prizes awarded to the lucky drawees.

MUTATIS MUTANDIS (A "Shuffling" Nose?)

It's been several years since anything like this has been attempted, but the wheels are in motion to have another famous "Turn-Around Night."

"What's that?" you may ask. Well, dear reader, that's when bars get together and exchange their bartenders for the evening, just to see how they can react with another bar's clientele — and vice versa.

No definite date has yet been proposed, but the bars involved include: from Oakland, Revol and Town & Country; from Hayward, Big Mama's and Turf Club.

These things are always fun, and this switch-a-roo is shaping up to be another winner. As soon as plans are finalized, you'll find the information right here.

Gee! Suzie on the planks of Big Mama's again?!? (#!@%\$!)

GALLIMAUFURY (A Miscellany Nose)

The "marriage" of Kenny and Connie Castle a few weeks ago proffered \$83 each to East Bay Assistance Fund and Fairmont Hospital Canteen Fund. A tip of Nez's nose for a kind and generous gesture.

Last Tuesday, at 10 a.m. — Obviously too late for my deadline! — was the final weigh-off between Suzie, Little Mother, and Larry, at T&C. the deadline was moved up a day to allow the three contestants "one more day of Ex-Lax!" There is a \$300 prize to the one who lost the most weight. Why did Little Mother sound discouraged?

Hoo boy! Soap box time! With a giggling excuse of, "My handwriting is terrible, I don't like to print, and I don't have a typewriter so I can't write a letter to the Editor so I want you to put something in the column about it and I expect to see it in the next issue," yours truly presents the following (albeit not exactly as the requestor expected, I'm sure!) Scenario I: Why is it that (select from column A) can go to (select from column B) during (select from column C) and get drinks for (select from column D) price, then go to (select from column E) and get a drink from (select from column F) which is (select from column G) for (select from column H) price?

| Column A | Column B | Column C | Column D |
|------------------|-------------|---------------|----------|
| Joe & Bill | Revol | Lent | Higher |
| George & B.J. | T&C | Early Bird | Similar |
| Fred & Ethel | White Horse | Night Cap | Lower |
| Mary & Joseph | Lake Lounge | Happy Hour | Double |
| Bartles & Jaymes | Paradise | Grand Opening | 1/2 off |
| Column E | Column F | Column G | Column H |
| Revol | Steve | Stronger | Higher |
| T&C | Suzie | Weaker | Similar |
| White Horse | Chuckles | Equal | Lower |
| Lake Lounge | Bobbie | Bigger | Double |
| Paradise | Tony | Short/Shot | 1/2 off |

Scenario II: What Emperor called spouse of what reigning Title Holder (hint: he broke his?) claiming that what Empress had a letter written by said Title Holder stating that the "blank" court should be disbanded? Make up your own fucking list for the underlined words! Details at 11!

Happy 50th birthday to "Our Lady of Lucerne!" His luau celebration at Revol last Saturday was "loa ono." Hau'oli la hanau, pila!

Most people deserve each other! I smile broadly! Love,

Nez •

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Bias

(Continued from page 4)

challenging the ordinance and instructing him to defend its validity against any future attacks.

When Renne was appointed city attorney last year, many hoped that she would refrain from challenging the gay rights ordinance. In the brief filed in May, however, she not only argued that the ordinance was invalid but asserted that the city had a constitutional right to discriminate against high level employees on the basis of their sexual orientation.

According to Dunlap, there is "no perceptible difference between Agnost's handling of the case and Renne's."

Co-counsel Matt Coles disagreed somewhat. "There's one difference," he said, "and that's that Renne is trying to argue that the Constitution gives the city some sort of affirmative right to discriminate."

"Even George Agnost could not have made that argument and kept a straight face," he said.

In the city's brief, Renne raised several arguments in an attempt to convince the court that anti-gay discrimination was legal. Claiming that the city had a constitutional right "to engage in effective management of its governmental functions," the brief argued that an individual's right to be free from anti-gay discrimination "must be balanced against [the city's] interest in efficient and economical administration of its public functions."

The brief concluded that "individual rights to equal protection must give way to more compelling governmental interests."

Coles dismissed this argument as absurd. "If the efficient operation of government is sufficiently important to permit discrimination," he said, "then all of our courts — state and federal — have been misinterpreting the equal protection clause of the Constitution for the last 40 years."

Under the city attorney's theory, he claimed, Southern schools might never have been desegregated because "the Supreme Court would have had to worry about whether desegregation would have interfered with the efficient operation of the schools."

"No court that I know of," he said, "has ever said that efficiency is as important as the right to be free from discrimination."

The city attorney's brief also attempted to convince the court that unless the city were free to discriminate against minorities in "executive positions," it would be prohibited from engaging in

"voluntary efforts to bring representatives of various minority groups into the policy-making level of government through preferential appointments."

In an apparent reference to Mayor Dianne Feinstein's appointment of Tom Hsieh and Jim Gonzales to the Board of Supervisors, Renne's brief suggested that unless the city were permitted to discriminate against minorities, it would be prohibited from appointing individuals to the Board of Supervisors or other policy-making boards "for the purpose of granting representation to the Hispanic community [or] the Asian community."

Again, Coles characterized the position as unfounded. "The United States Supreme Court has made it quite clear that it's all right to take minority group status into account as one factor when choosing between otherwise qualified candidates."

According to Coles, "If the city attorney read the cases cited in its brief, it should have known that there was nothing improper about Feinstein's appointments."

SHODDY LEGAL WORK

Coles expressed frustration at what he saw as the shoddy legal work being done by the city attorney in the Raines case. Estimating that the city attorney has spent almost as much time arguing that the city was allowed to discriminate as it had trying to prove that the city hadn't discriminated, Coles described himself as "thoroughly fed up with responding to stupid arguments."

Coles, an adjunct faculty member at Hastings Law School, said, "If I received the brief that the city attorney filed from one of my students, I'd be hard pressed to know whether I should let him pass the class."

"And regardless of whether I passed him or not," Coles continued, "I'd say, 'Jesus, I really fucked up if I haven't taught my students to do better work than this.'"

Kimberly Reiley, chief trial deputy for City Attorney Renne, admitted that the position taken in the city's brief was not strong. "I will immediately concede," she said, "that we had a very tenuous argument."

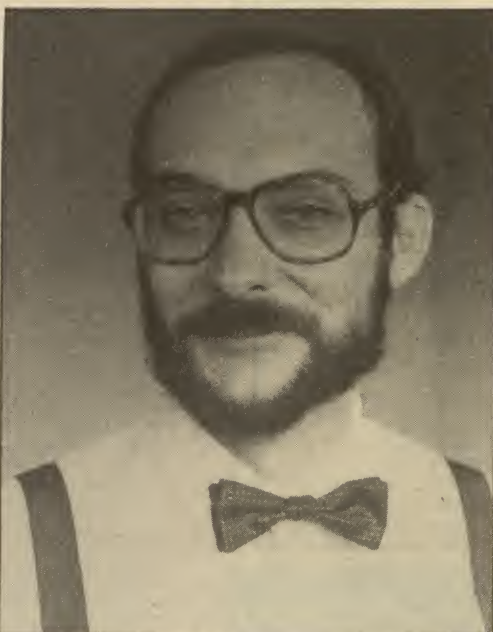
According to Reiley, however, the city attorney's "job is to treat this case as a regular lawsuit." As a result, she said, "we are obligated to make every legal argument in defense of the city that we can."

Coles and Dunlap disagreed. "There is no ethical duty on the part of a lawyer to win at any cost," said Dunlap. "An attorney has a duty to get his client's permission before making any substantive decisions," according to

meetings with Pacific Bell, Del Monte foods and the Fashion Institute.

Many cities across the country have instituted the project's successful small group format, and people come from throughout the world, seeking advice and assistance in an attempt to duplicate the energetic commitment which is part of the project in San Francisco.

This year the STOP AIDS Project will march in the Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Parade for the last time. Their theme will be "Thank You San Francisco!" and they are inviting volunteers and others who have been in any way involved with them to march behind their banner as an expression of thanks to the entire community for successfully dealing with the epidemic. ●



Matt Coles

(Photo: Rink)

Coles. Noting that the city attorney's client was the Board of Supervisors, he said, "I'd like to know from the city attorney

whether they asked the Board of Supervisors for permission to argue that it's legal to discriminate against gays."

POLITICAL FALLOUT

Reiley accused Coles and Dunlap of "trying to turn this into a political case." But Coles and Dunlap both argued that Renne's conduct in the Raines case was a legitimate issue that should be considered by gay and lesbian voters when they cast their votes for mayor in the November election.

"In some ways," Coles said, "it's more dangerous when you deal with someone who claims to support gay rights but who turns around and argues in court that there's no legal protection for our rights when the city is the one being accused of discriminating." Coles suggested that Renne was "gambling on the fact that the legal maneuvers in this case are so complicated that no one will understand what she's actually doing."

Coles and Dunlap also criticized the fact that not a single enforcement action has been brought by the city attorney under the gay rights or the AIDS anti-discrimination ordinances. In addition, Coles complained that nine years after passage of the gay rights ordinance, the city's anti-discrimination notices still do not list sexual orientation as a protected classification. ●

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STOP AIDS

(Continued from page 16)

whom have attended meetings.

"Most of the time when you think of groups ending you think of failure, but in fact we've reached our goal of getting to the community," says Saevitz, adding, "It's kind of a celebration that we're closing, because we're not needed anymore."

The type of information that the STOP AIDS Project has brought to the gay community is now being shared with other groups in the city. Outreach coordinator Steven Abbott was recently asked by the Army's Letterman Hospital to hold a meeting for people with AIDS and those who are sero-positive. He has also represented the organization at

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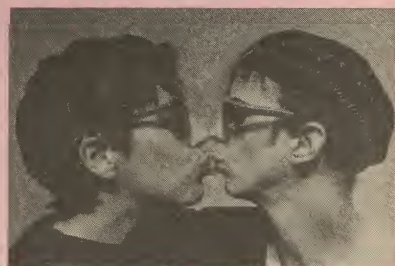
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THIS

FRIDAY 12

- **Dancing Cheek to Cheek:** tea dance, Trocadero Transfer, 520 4th St., S.F., 6:30 PM, \$6. Dancing and entertainment featuring City Swing with Gail Wilson, The Ritz Dancers, and The San Francisco Tap Troupe. Dance class taught at 5:30 PM for \$2.
- **Wrists:** stage performance with Tom Ammiano, The Studio at Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8:30 PM. Call 861-5079 for tickets.
- **Danny Williams and Sandy Van:** comedy cabaret, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 8-10 PM, free.
- **Tracking the Epidemic: Five Years of the AIDS Crisis:** tapes by channel 4, the BBC, and ITN (England), plus federal government AIDS TV spots, presented by Frameline and Simon Watney, Eye Gallery, 758 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$4.
- **Threepenny Opera:** stage performance, River Repertory Theater, Jenner Playhouse, Hwy 1, 20 minutes west of Guerneville via 116, 8 PM, \$7. Call (707) 865-2905 for more information.
- **The Inner Circle:** stage performance, Zephyr Theatre, 25 Van Ness, S.F., 8 PM, \$8. The New Conservatory Children's Theatre Company in an AIDS prevention play for teens.
- **SFGDI's:** open meeting, Covered Wagon, 917 Folsom St., S.F., 8:30 PM.
- **Fraternal Order of Gays:** game fest, FOG House, 304 Gold Mine Dr., S.F., 8 PM. Refreshments and snacks; call 641-0999 for more information.
- **Cabaret Review:** with Rainbeau'z Productions, Artemis Cafe, 1199 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$6.



Pulp and Circumstance opens this week at
Theatre Rhino
(Photo: J. Posener)

- **Tennis Open Classic:** to benefit Face To Face and the 1987 SF Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade and Celebration Committee, Atlantis Resort, Guerneville. Open to men and women, prizes. Call (707) 869-0671 for more information.
- **EastBay FrontRunners:** Pt. Pinole run. Take I-80 north to Hilltop Dr. and go west past the mall. Turn right on San Pablo Ave. to Pt. Pinole, turn left and stay on road to Pt. Pinole Park. Meet at parking road at 9:30 AM. Call 526-7592 or 261-3246 for more information.
- **Gay/Lesbian Sierrans:** dog walk at Rodeo Beach/Marin (with or without a dog). Carpool leaves from the Church St. Safeway in front of Pay 'N Save at 10 AM. Options include at 5-mile hike on Wolf Ridge loop or bird watching at Rodeo Lagoon. Bring lunch, beverages, and windbreaker. Call 653-5012 for more information.
- **San Francisco FrontRunners:** Meet at Stow Lake Boathouse in Golden Gate Park, S.F., at 9 AM. No-host brunch follows; beginners welcome. Call 647-3227 or 337-8704 for more information.
- **Men Seeking Relationships:** workshop and mixer, San Francisco MCC, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 7:30-10 PM, \$5. Sponsored by the Partners Institute. Call 343-8541 for more information.
- **Sweat, Dick and Leather:** jack-off party sponsored by JO Buddies, 890 Folsom St., S.F., doors open 9-11 PM, \$10.
- **Church of the Secret Gospel:** phallic fellowship, 746 Clementina St., No. 2, S.F., 7:30 PM-1 AM, \$5. Males 18+ welcome. Call 621-1887 for more information.

SUNDAY 14

- **The Blazing Redheads:** music, El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 4-8 PM, \$5.
- **The Mimi Fox and Laurie Antonolli Quartet:** music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 5:30-8:30 PM, \$5.
- **Diane Schlactus and Maura Shannon:** music, Artemis Cafe, 1199 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5. Folk to jazz.
- **Pulp and Circumstance:** stage performance (see Saturday listing for details).
- **The Inner Circle:** stage performance, 3 PM (see Friday listing for details).
- **Code Blue 2:** grand opening, Showplace Square, 16th and DeHaro, S.F., 8:30 PM-2 AM, \$2.99. Call 979-5557.
- **Ed Fonseca:** music, The Galleon, 718 14th St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5. Story-songs in the European tradition.
- **Three Views of Mt. Fuji:** stage performance, The Grapevine, 1775 Fulton St., S.F., 8 PM, \$20. The Lorraine Hansberry Theatre presents a benefit performance for the National March on Washington. Cast party with the author to follow. Call 486-0269 for more information.

- **Poetry Benefit Finale:** for the Lesbians of Color Conference, Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St., S.F., 7:30 PM, \$3-\$5 sliding scale. With Ariban, Winn Gilmore, Amana Johnson, Jacqueline Letalier, Rosemary Cho Leyson, Ntumbi, and Storme Webber.
- **Joseph Beam:** will read from the works of Essex Hemphill, Assotto Saint, Daniel Garrett, and Adrian Stanford, and excerpts from *In the Life: A Black Gay Anthology*, Walt Whitman Bookshop, 2319 Market St., S.F., 7 PM, \$3.
- **Womyn and the Wind:** Redwood Park Picnic (weather permitting). Meet at Mama Bears in Oakland at 10 AM or the Artemis Cafe in S.F. at 9 AM. A women's social and motorcycle organization for licensed female motorcycle drivers with access to a motorcycle and motorcycle insurance coverage who honor women.
- **San Francisco FrontRunners:** GayRun revisited. Meet on the Polo Field in Golden Gate Park, S.F., at 10 AM, 5k and 10k loops. Call 647-3227 or 337-8704 for more information.
- **Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders:** men's brunch and games for older gay men (60+) and friends, Francis of Assisi Community Center, 145 Guerrero St., S.F., noon to 3 PM. Bring food to share. Call 626-7000 for more information.



Marga Gomez comes back to host Comedy Plus at the Baybrick June 17
(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

SATURDAY 13

- **Pulp and Circumstance:** stage performance, Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8 PM, \$9-\$12. A musical comedy send-up of the lesbian pulp novels of the '50s. Call 861-5079 for tickets.
- **Wrists:** stage performance with Tom Ammiano, The Studio at Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8:30 PM. Call 861-5079 for tickets.
- **The Blazing Redheads:** music, Pena Moai, 1944 University Ave., E. Palo Alto, 9 PM, \$5.
- **Jennifer Berezan:** music, Sisterspirit Coffeehouse, 1040 Park Ave., San Jose, doors open 8 PM, music begins 8:30 PM, \$3-\$7 sliding scale.
- **The Inner Circle:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Threepenny Opera:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **SF Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade and Celebration Committee:** benefit beer bust, The Village, 4086 18th St., S.F., 3 PM. Call 647-FREE for more information.

WEEK

- **MCC San Francisco:** Bob Havens will speak on AIDS in the gay press, 150 Eureka St., 7 PM. Worship and communion service at 10:30 AM. Childcare and signing provided at the morning service. Call 863-4434 for more information.
- **New Life MCC:** worship and communion service, 1823 9th St., Berkeley, 5 PM. Call 843-9355 for more information.
- **Calvary MCC:** worship service, 2124 Brewster Ave., Redwood City, 6 PM. Call 368-0188 for more information.
- **MCC of the Redwoods:** worship and communion service, Olive and Throckmorton Sts., Mill Valley, 10:45 AM. Call 388-2315 for more information.
- **Golden Gate MCC:** Sunday worship services, 48 Belcher St. (between 14th St. and Duboce), S.F., 12:30 PM, 7 PM. Call 474-4848 for details.

MONDAY 15

- **Dollar Discovery Night:** Katibelle Collins hosts new talents and special guest artists, The Galleon, 718 14th St., S.F., 7:30 PM, \$1. With John Trowbridge and Lauren Kayer alternating on the piano.
- **Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders:** support group for older gay men (60+), Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., 7-8:30 PM. Call 626-7000 for more information.
- **SF Jacks:** JO party for like-minded men, 890 Folsom St., doors open 7:30-8:30 PM, \$6.
- **Leathermen's/SM Support Group:** meeting, room 21, San Francisco MCC, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 7:30 PM. Call 931-6160 for more information.
- **Jon Sugar:** talks about drugs, the FCC, mid-life crisis, and sex, KPOO, 89.5 FM, 9 AM to noon.

TUESDAY 16

- **A Waitress in Bohemia:** Ron Bluestein will read from his work, Intersection for the Arts, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$3. With Clark Henley, author of *The Butch Manual*.
- **Gwen Avery:** music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7-9 PM, free.
- **BurLEZk:** erotics for women by Blush Productions, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 9 PM. Advance tickets and reserved seating available at the Baybrick or at Blush Productions, 526 Castro St. Call 861-4723 for more information.
- **National Association of Lesbian and Gay Gerontologists:** meeting, San Francisco Home Health Services, 225 30th St., S.F., 6 PM. Seniors and professionals working in the field welcome. Call 626-7000 for more information.

WEDNESDAY 17

- **Whip Cream Wrestling:** presented by Blush Entertainment, Amelia's, 647 Valencia St., S.F., 9 PM, \$5. Bodybuilders and tons of whipped cream will add up to a hilarious, first-time-ever event.



Gail Wilson and City Swing bring you Dancing Cheek to Cheek June 12 at the Troc (Photo: R. Pruzan)

- **Danny Williams:** comedy, Atlantis, Guerneville, doors open 9 PM.
- **Different Daughters: A Book by Mothers of Lesbians:** bookparty with the editor, Louise Rafkin, and several contributors, Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St., S.F., 7:30 PM, free.
- **Pulp and Circumstance:** stage performance (see Saturday listing for details).
- **Tuffy Eldridge:** music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 6:30-8:30 PM, free.
- **Comedy Plus:** with Marga Gomez, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$2. An ongoing showcase for new and experienced comedy performers. Call 431-8334 to perform.
- **Memorial Mass:** for people who have died of AIDS/ARC, St. Mary's Cathedral, Geary and Gough, S.F., 7 PM.
- **Tear Gas Certification:** offered by the UCSF police department. Call 824-9474 for more information.
- **Wednesday Matinee:** sponsored by Operation Concern's Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders and North of Market Senior Services, 333 Turk St., S.F., 2:15-4 PM. Movies, games, and refreshments. Call 626-7000 for more information.
- **Women's Writer's Workshop:** for older lesbians (60+) and their friends, Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., 6-8 PM. Sponsored by Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders. Call 626-7000 for more information.



Rainbeau'z Productions does its thing June 12 at the Artemis Cafe (Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

THURSDAY 18

- **Holly Near:** will sing and speak, La Pena, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 7:30 PM. Sponsored by Friends of Nicaraguan Culture. Call 534-4688 for more information.
- **Comedy Night:** featuring Teresa Holcomb and Danny Williams, Bench and Bar, 120 11th St., Oakland, 10 PM, free.
- **Pat Wilder, Christa Hillhouse, and Yolanda Bush:** music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 8-10 PM, free.
- **Pulp and Circumstance:** stage performance (see Saturday listing for details).
- **Threepenny Opera:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Proud, Strong, United in Recovery:** workshop with Mimi Goodwin on substance abuse in the lesbian/gay communities and the role of the family in creating internalized homophobia, Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St., S.F., 7:30 PM, \$3-\$5 sliding scale.
- **San Francisco FrontRunners:** meet at McLaren Lodge in Golden Gate Park, S.F., at 6:30 PM. No-host dinner follows, beginners welcome. Call 647-3227 or 337-8704 for more information.

The Bay Area Reporter welcomes organizations, businesses, and individuals to submit items for its weekly calendar. Placement in the calendar is free and the sole responsibility of the editors. Deadline: 5 PM on Thursdays.

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BAY AREA REPORTER ENTERTAINMENT

Pulp and Circumstance

Lesbian Pulp Novels of the '50s Set to Song and Dance

by Wendell Ricketts

After nearly 30 years, Sally Gearhart can laugh about the day she shredded her entire collection of lesbian pulp novels and flung them out the window of her car. At the time, however, it was an act motivated primarily by terror. "In the 1950s," Gearhart recalls, "I was very much in the closet as a speech professor at a university in Texas. I had hidden all of my lesbian novels — they were in shoe boxes under my bed — and I was dreadfully frightened that someone was going to find them."

"My paranoia reached an incredible height at one point, and what I did was drive in my 1956 Plymouth, methodically tearing the pages out of the books, shredding the pages themselves, and then casting them out the window along Highway 59 all the way from Texarkana to Houston. I didn't want anyone to know I was a lesbian, and those books were very incriminating."

Incriminating though they may have been, lesbian pulp novels of the 1950s and early 1960s enjoyed a phenomenal popularity. With titles such as *They Walk in Shadow*, *Twilight Women*, *The Twisted Year*, and *Whisper Their Love*, literally hundreds of different novels were mass-marketed throughout the country during the post-WWII paperback boom. The lurid cover illustrations and sensational jacket blurbs ("A tale of twisted lust, once told only in whispers"), ensured that some women found them by accident at their local newsstands. Others passed dog-eared copies from friend to friend or, like Gearhart, nervously hid them and eventually destroyed them. But some women saved the novels. Today, those collections are a record of invisible voices in one of the most oppressive periods in American history.

With their overwrought plots and overtones of licentious tragedy, pulp novels would appear to lend themselves to nothing so little as to comedic interpretation. Yet comedy is precisely what playwrights Adele Prandini and Sue Zemel have found in the pulps, and the result of their collaboration,

a brand-new musical comedy entitled *Pulp and Circumstance*, premieres this Saturday, June 13, at Theatre Rhinoceros.

Pulp and Circumstance can boast, if not a cast of thousands, a cast of at least a dozen. With book and lyrics by Prandini and Zemel; music by Jan Cole, whose credits include music direction for the San Francisco production of *A... My Name is Alice*; and choreography by local modern dancer/choreographer Anne Bluethenthal, *Pulp* is a veritable creative extravaganza. Indeed, the multi-disciplinary collaboration of *Pulp and Circumstance* is something of which Theatre Rhinoceros can be proud.

Nearly two years went into the development of *Pulp and Circumstance*, a period during which Prandini and Zemel digested a considerable pile of pulp novels they had borrowed from a friend's collection. "I think many of the books were originally printed as a kind of soft porn for men," Prandini explains. "They were written by men, often under pseudonyms, for a male audience. These usually had horrible endings, or the women ended up going straight, and so on."

"A lot of what comes up in these books are the myths that I was raised with about lesbians. And they were very oppressive, very ugly myths to live through. We've all suffered at the hands of those ideas — what is normal and what isn't, and the accusation that you were perverse. But we survived. And, in hindsight, you can see how false and manipulative those concepts were, and they're not so threatening anymore."

"In another way," Prandini continues, "the books themselves are so melodramatic that, as we look back on them, you wonder, how could anyone fall for that? So there's a built-in melodrama that we tried to turn into 'melodrama.' It's campy and exaggerated. *Pulp* is a very stylized production."

Zemel, who developed quite a fondness for what she calls "good lesbian trash," adds that at least some of the pulps were written by lesbians. "Those tend to be on a little higher level," she notes, "like the ones writ-



Adele Prandini (r.) and Sue Zemel, authors of *Pulp and Circumstance*
(Photo: I. Young)

ten by Ann Bannon, Valerie Taylor, Vin Packer, and a few others. They tend not to be as tragic and seem to come from real-life experiences. There are a lot of genuine coming-out stories, for example."

Still, she agrees, "There is some tragedy in all of these lives, but there is also the other side, which is that they survived. And they did so because they were very strong people and because they found support in each other. That was a legacy we wanted to write about. Part of what came to us early on was that these were characters, but they were also real people. This is probably what some lesbians' lives were like then. Yet they survived

really difficult times and we wanted to find a way to convey that and bring them alive so they could be appreciated. But we didn't want to do it in a heavy-handed way. I think the comedy comes from our hindsight on that time, going back there with our 1980s perspective."

The outrageous soap-opera plot of *Pulp and Circumstance* almost defies summary. Suffice it to say that the play includes a coming-out story, the revival of a 20-year-old romance once abandoned on the beaches of Bora Bora, several genuine villains, a heroic drag queen, corrupt cops, an AWOL soldier under investigation by the military police, hot sex, and the late discovery by one character that her father is (gasp!) both still alive and happily cohabiting with his lover, Charles.

The characters congregate at Maxie's Hideaway Bar, the secret "den of daggers" owned by Maxie, an aging butch with a tragic past. Loath though I am to set anyone apart for praise on the basis of a single rehearsal, Patricia Silver promises to be outstanding as the rapier-tongued Aurelia. Her deliberate irony and judicious mugging are worthy of comparison to early Carol Burnett. The whole production, indeed, is rather like *Fresno* meets *Lesbo Hill*.

For Prandini, whose serious dramatic works (including *The Mountain is Stirring* and *A Safe Light*) have been produced at Theatre Rhinoceros and in New York, *Pulp and Circumstance* was an opportunity to move on to a more lighthearted topic. "The important thing to remember about the books that form the basis of this play," she points out, "is that they were written at a time when there were no gay or lesbian organizations, nothing like what we now think of as 'a community.' Today you can see lesbians shopping at Safeway and going to the movies and whatever, but that identification didn't exist 30 years ago. So part of what I hope this play will do is uplift people. It's not that everything is perfect for gay and lesbian people today. But let's remember that we've lived through a tough, painful time, and now we can look back on that and smile."

Pulp and Circumstance plays through July 18. Reservations and information at 861-5079.



Ann Block (r.) plays a distraught mother to Judy Wellisch's adolescent dyke in Theatre Rhino's musical send-up of lesbian pulp novels of the '50s, *Pulp and Circumstance*
(Photo: J. Posener)

Fractured Fairy Tale

by Bob Woolhouse

"The mood is gaily enchanting, the tempo is light, and the total impression is beguiling."

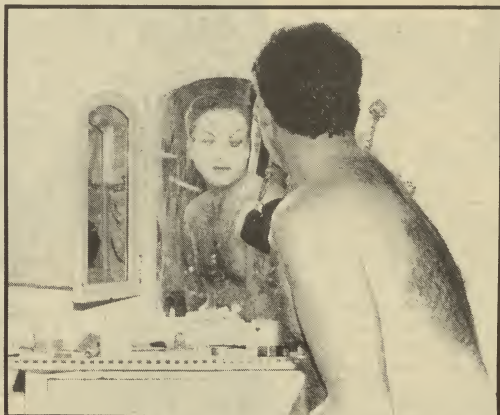
"Once Upon a Mattress is cute and clever, fresh and buoyant..."

Those were the comments of drama critics Brooks Atkinson of the N.Y. Times and Robert Coleman of the Mirror. They wrote their reviews for the musical comedy when it was presented on Broadway almost 30 years ago.

The same comments are just as true today as they were back in 1959 when the show propelled Carol Burnett to stardom. Sunday afternoon it opened at the California Club under the banner of Bread & Broadway, directed with verve and intelligence by Chuck Largent.

Once Upon A Mattress is a fractured fairy tale, both naive and sophisticated at the same time. The story is based on the old tale of "The Princess And The Pea" but doesn't take its plot too seriously. As the lyrics to one of the songs points out, "You can recognize a lady by her elegant air. But a genuine princess is exceedingly rare."

If you think that isn't a natural for musical theater in S.F., then best you retreat to Sparks, Nevada, for Gay Freedom Day. Still, *Mattress* is not a drag show but an integrated production with generic women playing the female roles (with one notable exception) and doing a lovely job of it.



Getting ready for *Once Upon a Mattress*
(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

The men of the show were quite lovely too, dashing around in revealing medieval costumes. The youthful cast members were not giving carbon copy performances in a shop-worn musical. Most performers weren't even born when *Mattress* left N.Y. and took to the road. The whole production was fresh and undated, illustrating how well a vintage show can hold up.

Especially beguiling was Clair Matzik playing the Burnett part of Chief Princess. A talented singing comedian, she belted out each solo with total authority.

The one drag in the show, Michael Temlin, playing the wicked Queen who wouldn't

allow her young son to marry, gave a performance of *La Cage Aux Folles* proportions.

According to Associate Producer Ilene Mac Adam, "He even had to be taught how to talk in heels." Well, Temlin didn't wobble for an instant, either in heels or in the characterization.

As the minstrel, T.K. McCann sang charmingly and looked great in tunic and tights bottomed off by CMC leather boots. George Rowe did an effective Wizard by holding down the camp and going for gentle satire. Nancy Jo Banko and Alexis Francois made a delightful lady-in-waiting and great white knight.

(Continued on page 38)

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Musical Marathon With Paul And Ron

by Bob Woolhouse

It was the night of the Tony Awards on television, but the Great American Music Hall was sold out anyway.

By 7:30 p.m. the expectant audience was in place, ready for the show to begin. Almost four hours later, the crowd was still on-hand, applauding and stomping for another encore.

It was a rousing, rambunctious affair for the local one-night-stand of Romanovsky and Phillips.

Things took off with their best possible beginning, "This Is Our Opening Number," which Paul Phillips then dismissed with, "So much for the Las Vegas part of the show."

Super slick it may have been, but glitzy it wasn't. From there on, it was full speed ahead as the pair of gay troubadours enthralled their audience with old favorites and humorous-poignant new selections.

They have successfully made the transition from cute, talented kids to professional adult entertainers with much musical know-how, fine stage presence, and great good humor. Gone is the tentative, trial-and-error approach of a few years ago at the Valencia Rose. That has been replaced with solid showmanship and a sense of assurance about their material and their audience.

It's a more balanced act now, with both men coming across well on stage. Formerly audiences had a tendency to look at Paul and

listen to Ron. Now you see and hear both of them about equally. The outgoing Paul has toned down to just one chandelier rhinestone earring, while the more retiring Ron Romanovsky appears in shorts and iridescent pink socks. One of his best numbers is his solo, "Telephone Sex."

"I lost my lover to AT&T... the receiver is all sticky and the push buttons are a mess."

Carrying on this comic approach, they come up with "Dressing Up In My Mother's Clothes," "I'm a Wimp," and "What Kind of Self-Respecting Faggot (Lesbian) Am I?" all of which get to the heart of the gay experience and elicit shouts of recognition from the men and women of the community.

To this they add their new, enlarged stand-up comedy routines. One is a lesson in maintaining self-esteem. First for the gays in the audience, "I'm so glad that I'm gay," or "I enjoy being a lesbian." For the straights present, "I'm hopelessly heterosexual." And for the remainder, "No, really. I'm bi." Here is a mantra for all people for all occasions.

Then they have their comments on questions most often asked during interviews by straight reporters:

"How long have you two been together?"

"Oh, about two-and-a-half hours."

"Who writes all of your songs?"

"Why, Barry Manilow, of course."

"Do you ever do regular music?"

"You think of our music as irregular maybe."

When are you going to do a new album?"

"As soon as 20 or 30 people with \$1,000 each run up and say 'This is for you.'"

"When you say gay men's music, you mean Garland and Streisand?"

"No comment."

The evening sped along with such crowd pleasers as "I Thought You'd Be Taller," "Outfield Blues," "Womb Envy," and "Trouble in Paradise," from their first two albums.

Next came the world's most unusual tango, "Don't Use Your Penis As a Brain," and was followed by "Boys Will Be Boys," "Homophobia," and "Be All That You Can Be (But Don't Do It In The Army)." They hit the mark so well that although it was then 11:15 p.m., the audience simply didn't want to leave.

In between the musical numbers where the dozens of telling comments on gay life:

"Some states like Texas are too wide to drive across at one sitting. When you look like us, you have to roll up the windows, lock the doors, and don't get out of the car."

(Continued on page 38)


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Keith White

Men Dancing: Limits Respected

The second and final program of Men Dancing VI at Centertospace revived a crisis in my dance consciousness. While the program was adequately entertaining, including a broad spectrum of styles and introducing several interesting dancers who were new to me, Men Dancing VI was distinguished by a spectacular lack of artistic risks, particularly any risk of the dancers' exposure as sexual beings. Yet isn't that the very risk that makes the notion of a concert of all-male dancing a provocative one in the first place?

The Barbary Coast Cloggers lent their customary joyousness to this program, and tap dancer Rodney Price, another familiar participant who'd been out of sight for too long, gave two of his highly stylized tap solos. The Cloggers perform with such authentic and hair-raising hill-billy gusto I wonder if an unsuspecting audience would ever guess any of the men are gay. Courtship gestures in the Cloggers' dances are simply choreographic devices straight out of square dancing, without any implicit sexual suggestion. If this dancing contains any message, it's that dancing is fun.

Price might almost be called a character tap dancer, since his solos are always defined by their music and costume. His *Rhumba Tap*, complete with flashy bolero and sombrero, represented an unusual tap-dancing detour South of the Border. In the second half he gave his popular stairstep tap dance, reminiscent of Bill Robinson's famous solo, wearing impeccable white tie and tails.

Among those dancers new to me, Charles Trapolin, Larry McQueen, and Dudley Brooks explored various aspects of modern dance, while Roger Dillahunt and fellow dancer Jeffrey Lucas worked in a style one might call television jazz—something like "Solid Gold" with a heavier ethnic flavor. In "Section IV" from *Ritual for the Elements*, wearing loincloths and helmets and their brown bodies gleaming with iridescent polish, urban tribesmen Lucas and Dillahunt danced to the disco beat of music by Junior Homrich.

Charles Trapolin's *Softly* began like someone swaying in the wind, to music from Phillip Glass' "Glassworks." His solo meandered like a vocalise for the body, alternating classic poses with gently collapsing, off-balance stances. A second section, which made the dance seem quite long, had a deliberate, slow-motion pace like Tai Chi. Larry McQueen performed his *In Search of the Mystic* to a lush score for chorus, drums, and synthesizer by Gabrielle Roth. McQueen's intuitive sense of rhythm enlivens his dancing, a percussive-modern style that made me think of Katherine Dunham. Dudley Brooks' modern solo, *Bach*, approached its Bach Fugue with inventiveness and a technique more supple than strong. To complete the evening, Matthew Child, the most individual performer on either program, reprised his two dances from the week before.

Where is the sexuality in our male dancing? With the marginal exception of bellydancer Rashid Salama, who was not originally scheduled to appear, none of the performers in Men Dancing VI ventured into a sexually sensitive performance style. The only duet, Roger Dillahunt's ex-



Charles Trapolin in Men Dancing

(Photo: S. Savage)

cerpt from *Ritual for the Elements*, was essentially a unison study in which the men occupied separate spaces. A duet by John Le Fan and James Tyler, given at the recent Furious Feet concert (the same night I saw the first program of Men Dancing), was reportedly wonderful to watch, but its focus, I was told was unmistakably (and predictably) platonic.

'Men look good dancing together, as (the) Europeans have amply demonstrated, but it's a risk our dancers seem to dread more than anything else.'

In as recent an issue of the New Yorker as June 8, 1987, Arlene Croce, a brilliant, opinionated, and reprehensibly homophobic (in the broadest sense of the word) dance theorist, wrote an essay on male dancing that clearly delineates the American critical climate that discourages choreographers' experimentation with male dancers. Croce, who wrote about the risks a choreographer takes in creating an all-male ballet, took considerable risks herself when, after noting that "Upper-body power is the reason that men lift women and not vice-versa," she added, as a corollary, "And lack of lower-body power is what keeps men, when lifted, from holding a shape in the air as well as women." Can she actually believe male dancers have intrinsically weaker stomachs and legs than females, and that

relative body weight has nothing to do with the matter? She commends Peter Martins, whose new all-male ballet for New York City Ballet she was reviewing with general disapproval, for avoiding what she evidently considers the two fundamental breaches of men's choreography: "steps that could more properly be done by women" and asking "men to partner men." Her essay included such sweeping and acrimonious generalizations as "... female ensembles are more theatrically potent [than male ones]..." I haven't seen the Peter Martins ballet Croce was reviewing, a recent premiere at the New York City Ballet, but the theories she drags out to support her criticisms smack of the same flagrant sexism she's revealed in the past when too many men appeared on a stage she happened to be watching, or when male homosexuality was professed or implied. With people like this sitting on the Dance Panel of the National Endowment for the Arts, is it any wonder American choreographers—including our openly gay choreographers—toe the heterosexual line as assiduously as they continue to do?

And they do toe the line. In Europe, many choreographers explore both male dancing and male sexuality very successfully, including Bejart, Petit, Tetley, Van Dantzig, and Van Manen, to name a few of the best known. (During the 1988 season, the San Francisco Ballet will present a predominantly male work *The Sons of Horus*, by English choreographer Peter Bintlley, whose work is as yet largely unknown in this country, and I'm not sure the SFB even knows what it's getting.) Men look good dancing together, as those Europeans have amply demonstrated, but it's a risk our dancers seem to dread more than anything else. Now, in the late '80s, artistic risks are among the few risks still worth taking. Doesn't anyone have the talent and the courage?

Singing and Sinking



There will be a benefit performance of *Three Views of Mt. Fuji* for the National March on Washington June 14
(Photo: P. Helder)

This week: a little cabaret glamor, and two plays in which I'm not there and not there, for varying reasons.

★ ★ ★

The first thing you notice about Andrea Marcovici is her beauty and directness. She's like that in her music, too, as you'll be able to see and hear during her current two-week run at the Plush Room (through June 21; 885-6800). She does American standards and contemporary show tunes, straight from the heart.

But you might be wondering who she is. Unless you watch television (*Trapper John, Barringer*, and a mess of movies of the week), or remember her from her mid-'70s heyday as *After Dark* magazine's Darling of the Club Circuit, you won't know where she came from.

She came from Broadway — and she intends to go back. She was going to be the next big star, but was in some short runs. *Ambassador* ran five nights, and the rock musical *The Wedding of Iphegenia* played the Public Theatre, where a limited run is the norm. The off-Broadway *Variety Obit* describes itself. Then, of course, there was *Nefertiti*. Despite closing in Chicago on the way to New York, there's an album on which you can hear a nice, young performer.

"I wasn't seasoned enough as a performer," Andrea said recently. "I was small and real and honest, the way I can be on TV. But what's honest about Ethel Merman? The theater's not necessarily the place to be only honest. I needed to be bigger."

Disillusioned and unhappy after this string of non-hits, she came to California, where her honesty and intimacy have served her very well on television and films since 1987. She was in *The Front*, and in the forthcoming *Someone To Love*. This has kept her out of the clubs, although she almost made it back to Broadway in *Chaplin*. She played all three of the silent star's wives in it, and raves about how great it, star Tony Newley, and director Michael Smuin were. But the cast arrived in New York to find a closing notice. The producer had run out of money.

Andrea enthusiastically, perhaps naively, defends her stage vehicles. "So *Nefertiti* was a little esoteric," she admitted. "But it's a great story, like *Camelot*, about two zealots who want to invent their own world."

Similarly with *Chaplin*: "It needed some rewriting, but we were in the middle of it! It would have worked."

But it didn't, and Andrea continued her television work, until a Los Angeles club owner begged her to come back. When she did, she says, "I realized, God, I'm happy." So she's stayed. Her television work has helped develop her audience, and the intimate nature of club work is specifically suited to her. "Honesty is the basis of it," she said. "My singing is a direct expression from my heart."

It better be, since her programs (she opens with "Movie Night," does "Valentine" at her late shows, and "Broadway" on Sunday) are almost solid love and torch songs. "My mother was a torch singer," she said, "and I've got a whole trunk of great songs."

★ ★ ★

A friend thought I'd like the show because I was a liberal. That may be the reason I first paid attention to the Lorraine Hansberry Theatre, but no amount of political correctness could make me like their current offering, Ntozake Shange's *Three Views of Mt. Fuji*. In its current form at least, it's an unfinished and rather inaccessible work.

The fanciful name of the central character, So-&-So de Beau, is the best thing about *Three Views*. Although a besotted old drunk, he's "the Keeper of the Beat," a patriarchal figure to a group of Third World poets who gather in a neighborhood bar for a poetry reading in honor of his birthday. The idea of staging the show in a real neighborhood bar must have seemed a good one to director Stanley Williams, but the practicality is widely spread playing areas, poor acoustics, and the hum of air conditioning. The locale removes the heat of focus a legit theater would throw on Shange's poetry, but that's all to its favor. Good at easy descriptions of domestic life, and sparkling slyly when erotic, Shange relies during the lengthy political raps on buzz words — Malcolm X! Soweto! — and makes little cumulative sense.

The proceedings made me yearn for the good, old fashioned, well-made play. And in all fairness, I'm not the person to review a "choreopoem," a genre which strikes me as an easy excuse for lack of form and unclear content. Watching *Three Views*, I felt like

the brother from another planet. This was a foreign language to me, much of it incomprehensible. Was it me, or the play?

It's not really a play, but a poetry reading disguised as a play. And it's not really poetry, but a loose collection of free-form thoughts on drug abuse, sex, machismo, racism, and the government's foreign policies, disguised in the form and cadences of poetry.

When the assemblage of Third World poets — Chinese, Chicano, Filipino, Puerto Rican, black, Jamaican, American, and Afro-style — gets together to read their work, the synopsis tells us, "Old passions flare; old ideals are questioned." And that's about the depth of the proceeding, which progresses in outline form, never fully fleshed out. The time span is arbitrarily broken, and sequences are stitched boldly together by surprising eruptions of near-violence. Either the playwright is manipulating us, or the group is unlikely to begin with — theirs is an uneasy truce.

I came, then, to question the verisimilitude of the cultural mix on stage. It's a rainbow coalition believable only as fiction. And though a fairly comprehensive representation of disenfranchised peoples, there is no gay person. While the gay experience has been largely more middle class than that of these characters, it is still an omission. Ask a gay Chicano, or a gay black, about their double exclusions. Why not a gay black in this group? It might offset the evening's one reference to homosexuality, which comes when the gay-looking and sounding Oriental character says something provocative and is cursed at: "Maricon!"

Thus disinclined by the inertness of the writing, the difficulties of the environment, and most pointedly, as a friend to the people portrayed, I turned off. In relief.

Shange is an interesting, natural performer, though her voice is small; Bartholomew Casimir as de Beau doesn't always make sense of his lines, but has a bounteous spirit; and it's good to see Theatre Rhinoceros alumni: strikingly gorgeous Lee Ann Fuji takes risks and wins, while fashion-model beauty Cheryl Wilson evinces deep care and some trouble sounding natural with the unusual lines. Francis Jue, Todd Jackson, and Judy Hoy

(Continued from page 38)

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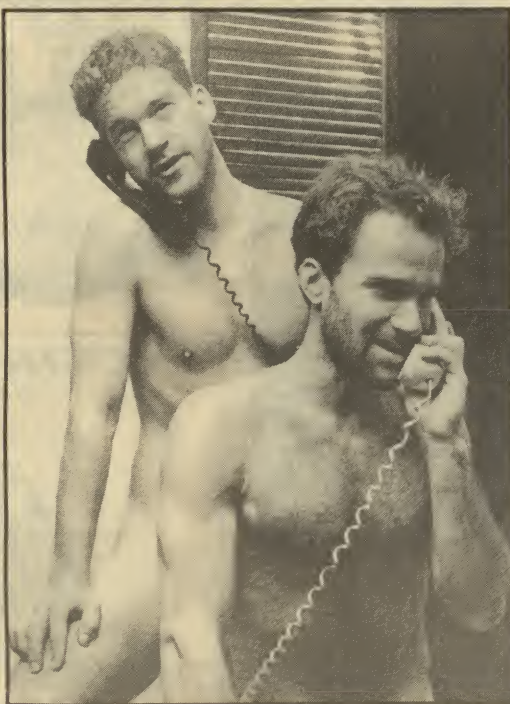
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Pervert Alert

As someone who has always tried to find a shred of redeeming social value in the most depressing situations, I'm convinced that within a surprisingly short time the AIDS crisis has elevated the once-dreaded obscene phone call into a new and exciting art form.

When I first started receiving these coarsely sensual greetings, I felt an obligation to feign a certain amount of righteous indignation. After a while, however, I chose to regard my new and lewd awakenings as deliciously decadent invitations to participate in an increasingly provocative stream of sexual technobabble emanating from the mouths of creative gay minds. Here's why:

Something inside me snapped on that revelatory morning when my phone rang and I awoke to the voice of a strange man who asked if I felt like beating off with him. "How often have I had my peace of mind ruined by telemarketing solicitations from magazine subscription services and insurance firms?" I wondered. "How much money have I lost to Ma Bell for all those long distance phone calls to wrong numbers and answering machines? What about all those requests from the Salvation Army, Police Athletic League, and that nonprofit agency for the handicapped which keeps trying to sell me light-bulbs? Or those dizzy public relations hacks who keep calling from the East Coast without remembering the three-hour time difference? Wise up, old buddy," I snickered. "You deserve a break, today!"



Bert (John Finch) and J.R. (Jay Corcoran) take matters in hand during a scene from Robert Chesley's *Jerker*

With that thought in mind, I reached under the covers and opened up my office's Customer Services Department for business. And you may rest assured it was not with a gob of McDonald's special sauce that I stained my sheets before I hung up the phone!

Since then I've become in-

creasingly aware of the perverse ways in which the AIDS crisis has helped gay men improve their vocabularies, sharpen their word skills, and re-invent the long-lost art of storytelling through their participation in phone sex. For all I know, phone-sex fantasies may be making an invaluable contribution to the ongoing bat-

tle against illiteracy in America. How so? Simply because, in addition to learning new ways to manipulate old instruments, callers must develop a firm grasp on the English language if they are to succeed in their lurid endeavors.

Why, just the other day I told a caller that what he *really* wanted was to be tightly bound, mercilessly gagged, have his body shaved like a newborn baby's skin and then be forced to sit in abject humiliation (helplessly hogtied on the cold porcelain floor of his bathtub) while ten hairy leathermen drenched him in stinging cascades of recycled beer. The delighted grunts and squeals on the other end of the line made me wonder if my friend hadn't misinterpreted my words to mean he had just won the California State Lottery!

COME AGAIN?

Gay phone sex provides the curious inspiration for Robert Chesley's play *Jerker*, which is appropriately subtitled "A Pornographic Elegy With Redeeming Social Value and A Hymn to the Queer Men of San Francisco in Twenty Phone Calls — Many of Them Dirty." Thanks to the folks at Helping Hand Productions, I recently caught a performance of Chesley's play in New York and feel that, along with Larry Kramer's *The Normal Heart*, it ranks as one of the most honestly moving and down-to-earth pieces of gay theater to emerge in years.

Chesley's one-act drama chronicles the growing relationship between two gay men, frightened by the AIDS crisis, who become steady phone-sex compan-

ions until one of them is stricken with pneumocystis and dies from the disease. As directed by Nicholas Deutsch, there isn't much in *Jerker* which could offend anyone in the audience unless they've been recruited from PTL's Heritage Amusement Park in South Carolina.

Like Eric Overmyer's *On The Verge*, this is really a play about words, fantasy, and the ways in which we use the English language to stretch the monochromatic landscapes of our daily lives into cum-filled technicolor sunsets. Chesley's drama has many poignant moments (This is a tearjerker as well.) which are not so much rooted in the AIDS crisis as in the frailty of the human condition. J.R., as performed by the incredibly handsome Jay Corcoran, is not just some hot and hunky clone whose sultry voice enjoys a mischievous predilection toward phone sex. In the arena of real life (where his unseen telephone companion must never tread) he is a semi-paralyzed Vietnam veteran who can only move about on crutches.

The phone friendship which develops between J.R. and Bert (played by John Finch) allows the second man to pour out his anguish over a friend's physical deterioration due to AIDS and be comforted by J.R.'s favorite fantasy (a tale which has nothing to do with sex but has everything to do with a deep-seated desire for some intensely fulfilling warmth and affection). *Jerker*, which is filled with hearty laughs, a few annoying moments from the ubiquitous answering machine and, at the end, some painful tears, should be seen by everyone

(Continued on page 38)

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Philip Campbell

Elizabeth Enman: One Voice

In the musical play *Company*, Stephen Sondheim warns of the bone-crunching competition awaiting newcomers to the Big Apple, "and another hundred people just got off of the train." Still, New York remains mecca for theater hopefuls, just as Los Angeles attracts the film and television crowd. Further north and light-years away from the media hype, San Francisco and the greater Bay Area quietly continue a long tradition of nurturing talent in the classical music field.

The odds are still tremendous, but rather less frightening, where there's just enough work and local support to allow a young career the chance to correct mistakes and improve technique before the potential damage of premature comparison and criticism can be done.

No one is more aware of the benefits or hidden pitfalls than mezzo-soprano Elizabeth Enman. Thirtyish and a self-described late bloomer, Elizabeth (a simpler Mary to her friends) revels in the free experimentation afforded by relative obscurity, but wisely knows a voice must be heard by many if full potential is to be realized.

Like countless others in her profession, Elizabeth first relied on music as an early defense mechanism—gaining the positive attention of elders, but creating mistrust and jealousy among peers. "I didn't mind," she shrugs. "The adults were more understanding and, besides, I knew it wouldn't be long before I was one of them. I never hid behind my voice; it was all I

had to offer."

It's that characteristic pragmatism and honesty, along with a truly funny sense of humor, that first assured me of the probability of a solid career in the making. After several conversations, I'm convinced. The voice is already there, better than most, distinctively lighter in color and with a sharper edge than most mezzos, but capable of handling low soprano roles and delivering finely etched diction. Good for everything from Mozart to Puccini, though Enmann pants after the Verdi bad girls and, I must admit, there should be a compelling Lady Macbeth in her future.

It's easy to spot her special qualities when she sings in costume. She has the kind of timing that can't be taught, and her acting is concentrated mostly around the eyes—a far cry from the sort of operatic hamming we're often subjected to. "No one likes scenery chewing anymore, onstage or off. There isn't enough time."

Of course, Enmann isn't the only singer from this new school. What separates her is an ability for detached self-appreciation and appraisal, coupled with a carefully charted game plan.

"I don't compare myself and I rarely look to another performer's interpretation for ideas. I admire certain stars, especially Christa Ludwig, but I don't necessarily want to be like them, even if it were possible."

Living and working within the rarefied atmosphere of Opera San Jose as a member of an on-

(Continued on page 38)

Life Is A Film Festival

Film festivals are my life. I recently attended part of the 12th Seattle International Film Festival, a 3½-week affair encompassing about 150 movies. I say "movies" because this mellow fun fest is more inclined to show *Evil Dead II*, *Blood Diner*, or *Dead End Drive-In* than highly political works from emerging nations.

As co-founders Darryl MacDonald and Daniel Ireland are gay and Seattle doesn't have a separate lesbian and gay festival, this all-purpose event showcases the likes of *Prick Up Your Ears*, *Anne Trister*, Eloy de la Iglesia's *Turn of the Screw* (his most polished work yet — how did our festivals miss this one?), *Black Lizard*, *Oscar Wilde: Spendthrift of Genius*, and from our forthcoming Gayfest, *Pouvoir Intime* and Marc (typoed in the program as "Marci") Huestis' *Chuck Solomon: Coming of Age*.

Of the eight films I saw in Seattle, the best was a repeat from the San Francisco festival, *Hey Babu Riba*. I also enjoyed the Greek scenery in *High Season*, de la Iglesia's *Screw*, *Pouvoir Intime*, and a low Dutch comedy, *Flodders*. Not bad for a brief visit.

Earlier, the Ninth Houston International Film Festival, a.k.a. the 20th Festival of the Americas — I covered this one in its early years in Atlanta — gave two awards to Jill Godmilow's *Waiting for the Moon*. It won Best Picture and split the Best Actress prize between its two leading Lindas, Hunt (Toklas) and Bassett (Stein). The film reverts to *American Playhouse* for a June 22 telecast after its brief theatrical window.

John Huston was too ill to pick up his Life Achievement Award as Houston honored Huston, but John Saxon and Connie Stevens were on hand, the latter winning a prize in the festival's Celebrity Regatta!



That's no drag queen, that's my mother! — Barbara Cartland on her throne at the Romantic Booklovers' Conference in *Where the Heart Roams*

FRIDA BE YOU AND ME

As you had to know about Alice and Gertie to sort fact from fiction in *Waiting for the Moon*, foreknowledge of Mexican painter Frida Kahlo is essential to piece together the jigsaw puzzle Paul Leduc has made of her life in *Frida: Naturaleza Viva*. For one significant example, her lesbianism is only vaguely hinted at until near the end. Until then you can assume her husband, Diego Rivera, was the only significant relationship in her life.

The film is a beautiful but in-

coherent collage of random moments in Kahlo's life. One moment the Riveras are having Trotsky for tea, the next the young Frida is in an obliquely filmed accident that left her crippled for

life. If you know her story well enough to make sense of it, you can appreciate Ofelia Medina's performance as the adult Frida and the cinematography of Angel Goded.

Do your homework first, and check out *Recuerdos de Frida*, the exhibition of Kahlo's life and works at Galeria de la Raza (through June 27) before attempting to follow *Frida: Naturaleza Viva*. (York)

NEXT OF HARLEQUIN

"The romance industry" means different things to different nongay people. While men turn to prostitutes, women turn to romance novels.

Oakland-based George Csicsery's documentary *Where the Heart Roams* straddles a fine line to appeal to two discrete audiences — those who read romance novels and those who want to laugh at the first group.

It's mostly centered around the cross-country "Love Train" to the 1983 Romantic Booklovers Conference, organized by reader and aspiring writer Chelley Kitzmiller, a southern California housewife. *Grande dame* Barbara Cartland appears in two outfits Bette Davis might have worn as Baby Jane, and sings in a similar voice. She decries the industry's turn toward "soft porn" and traces her own high standards back to Shakespeare's sonnets, not mentioning that many of them were written to a man.

Despite budget-imposed rough edges, Csicsery covers his

subject thoroughly, from a young hopeful in her 60s to the man who writes as "Jennifer Wilde." (Roxie)

DON'T MESS WITH NESS

The Untouchables is now a movie. Or two. Kevin Costner, who may be the new Henry Fonda, plays Eliot Ness as a boy scout working on his merit badge in law enforcement. Like Jesus this Treasury agent selects disciples for his mission — to rid Chicago of Al Capone.

With swearing and bloodshed kept to a minimum, the first portion plays as if David Mamet had patterned his screenplay after *Robin Hood*. Ness even meets Little John — er, Sean Connery — on a bridge. Connery becomes his guru, tutor, and father. They sign on raw recruit Andy Garcia and Washington accountant Charles Martin Smith, while a reporter — the 20th century minstrel — hangs around to sing of their exploits to the world. The real *Untouchables* team was larger, but Mamet tends toward minimalism. Besides Capone (Robert De Niro), the only gangster identified — almost as an afterthought — is Frank Nitti.

Well past the midpoint the movie picks up steam and director Brian De Palma really starts cooking. The scene where Nitti goes after Connery at home may be the best-directed you'll see this year, and it's almost topped by the maddeningly suspenseful, highly Hitchcockian Union Station sequence which follows.

(Continued on page 38)



Kevin Costner plays Eliot Ness, one of the G-men in *The Untouchables*

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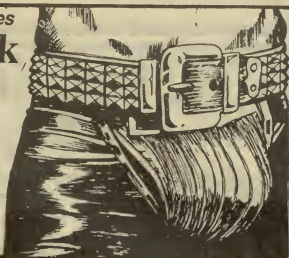
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Mr. Marcus

Pete Pettine Wins Mr. No. California Drummer

There were three contestants on stage at the SF Eagle last Friday night, June 5, competing for the Mr. Northern California Drummer title. That's right. Three contestants. In the audience of some 200 or so men and women, there were at least a couple of dozen men who in their own right were worthy and capable of competing in the ritual. Nine out of ten of them I talked to said: "I only came to watch." Even though flyers, announcements, and press notices have been in evidence for some six weeks now, the dearth of contestants was both appalling and pitiful for a city with the leather population San Francisco has.

Many wondered about why there was such a paucity of interest. Has the Drummer reputation of yesteryear caused this lack of interest? While no prizes for the eventual winner have been announced, is it necessary to offer cash and a cornucopia of loot to get leather men to participate? Or is San Francisco too blasé to get involved? Like New York, which rarely gets excited about these titles, are we arriving at that juncture too? Would the community rather have a popular vote by those in attendance as opposed to judges? Is it considered too political or too much of a responsibility if you do win?

Whatever the answer, it only proves that the three who did compete last Friday have a lot of balls to get up there in front of the gathered leather tribe and go through the paces of winning a regional (not just local) title. Those three were J.D. Bush, a newly arrived specimen from Boston named "Spike," and Pete Pettine, who was once Mr. SF Eagle Leather and has already competed in the Intl. Mr. Leather Contest in Chicago. With all due respect to the other two contestants, Pete had his act definitely "together" last Friday; his leather



Pete Pettine, Mr. Northern California Drummer 1987
(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

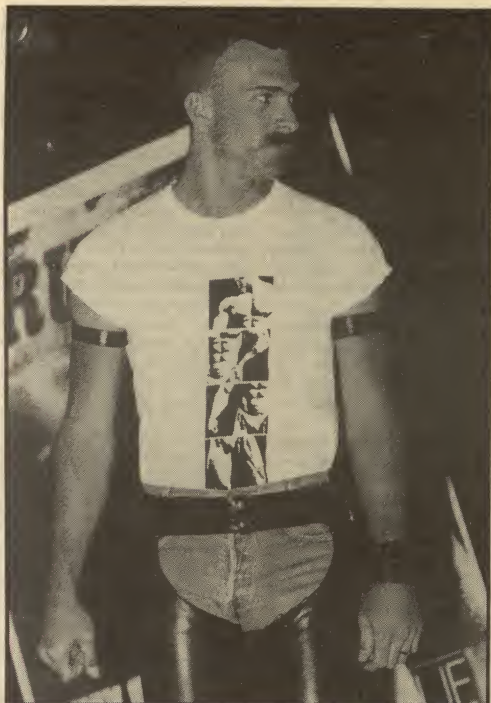
er was impeccably sharp, his "fantasy" sequence was well thought out and executed and showed some planning, and his speech and answers to the judges' questions were flawless. The other two, who reputedly entered at the last minute, proved worthy opponents in all the categories with thought-provoking answers and statements.

Meanwhile, across the nation, the regional Mr. Drummer contests have been underway for a couple of months now; you can see some of the winners in this issue of B.A.R. through the courtesy of Drummer Magazine. In addition to the US regional winners, a European leather title holder has been invited to par-

(Continued on next page)



Pete Pettine, Mr. Northern California Drummer 1987, flanked by the runners-up in the contest held June 5 at the Eagle
(Photo: R. Pruzan)



Thom Blande of Cincinnati is Mr. Southeast Drummer
(Photo: Courtesy Drummer Magazine)

Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

ticipate in the finals to be held at the Club DV8 Friday, June 26. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door, if any are left. I'll give you the complete Mr. Drummer weekend schedule next week, but you will be able to meet the candidates in person at the SF Eagle Thursday, June 25, when they judge the Bare Chest Contest that night.

★ ★ ★

It wasn't dullsville at all last week. Thursday, June 4, some nine hot young'uns gathered under the glare of the disco ball and the light show at the EndUp to compete in the Mr. Oct. '88 Buns Calendar contest. The Balloon Girls made a worthy effort to upstage everyone but the cab drivers as judges (Tawny Gold, Bionica the Mostress, and Fenemia Black) as the gyrations went on. It seems like the surrounding provinces are getting hip to the scene, and there were more out-of-town contestants than usual. In the end, Stephan, a super-bodied dude from Sacramento with black curly hair, bluer-than-Paul Newman eyes, and a body by God, won the title, leaving only the November and December spots on the '88 calendar unfilled. Your last two chances to get on what looks to be quite a bulging calendar for 1988!

Sunday, the SF-Eagle patio was filled to capacity again as the Gay Pride Parade committee pressed forward, raising funds for the end-of-the-month extravaganza.

Monday, hundreds of thousands of bucks were raised at Pier 3 for most of the AIDS agencies in town with the big food bash. With tax maven Paul Cann revealing his AIDS-related complications, maybe more funds will be raised with his enthusiasm and connections.

★ ★ ★

This weekend seems full of verve. Tonight, they'll be choosing Mr. September '88 on the Bare Chest Calendar with competition beginning at 2200 hours. Before that, from 1900 to 2000, there'll be a beer bust sponsored by the SF Bodybuilders team, and no doubt

some of them will compete. Friday looks pretty clear from where my pile of press releases lie.

Saturday, they're celebrating their 21st anniversary at Maud's, the lesbian fortress over there on Cole St.; the Pussies will be reunited once more to entertain you beginning at 2100 hours. Congrats to Rikki Streicher and staff (hi, Susan!).

I almost forgot, the SFGDIs are having an open meeting Friday, June 12, at the Covered Wagon beginning at 2030 hours. Their run is the weekend of 19-21 June, but I've received absolutely no information on it.

Tom Ammiano will be performing his Wrists show at Theatre Rhino Fri. and Sat., June 12 and 13, at 2030 hours. Saturday too, the J/O Buddies have their Sweat, Dick & Leather party at 890 Folsom, with the doors open from 2100-2300 for \$10. (Watch for news on their Post Parade Pud-Pounding Party Sunday, June 28, from 1600-1900 for only \$7.)

The SF Bondage Club hosts



Michael Shareck of Nashville is Mr. Carolina Drummer
(Photo: Courtesy Drummer Magazine)

another party Saturday night at the S/M House from 2100 to 0300 Sunday. It's a joint party with the Knights Templar. Saturday morning, the Cycle Runners M/C Tahoe 500 Run takes off from the Watering Hole at 0830. They'll accept the \$40 fee that morning, which includes lodging, lunch, and dinner on Saturday night in the Lake Tahoe area. Will Bolger will be riding his new "The Concord" on this one.

Sunday, June 14, it's Brown Bag Day! You'll have a chance for only One Dollar to win any one of three color TV sets, a black and white one, a complete stereo system, furniture, books, porno videos, T-shirts, dinners, drinks, etc., etc. at the 1st Annual Brown Bag fundraiser. The affair will run simultaneously at six bars (Amelia's, Cafe San Marcos, EndUp, Rawhide, Pilsner Inn, and the SF-Eagle) from noon to 7 p.m. In addition, Gail Wilson and City Swing will perform at the SF-Eagle with Danny Williams MC'ing. A Spuds McKenzie lamp, Duncan Phyfe chair, and lots of collectors items, T-shirts and buttons, run pins, rubber stamps, etc. are yours for only a buck. Come on down to any of the bars listed and let's get this Brown Bag Day in gear for the GSL World Series and the AIDS Emergency Fund. If you've got any goodies taking up your precious space, call 821-5830, 861-4348, 923,9811, or 665-5209 and someone will come and pick it up for you. In Oakland, call 482-1372!

Monday, June 15: SF Jacks party at the usual place. Jim Wigler's Faces of AIDS (60 portraits) of persons with AIDS opens at the San Mateo Government Center in Redwood City from 1715 to 1930 with Supervisor Tom Nolan inviting you.

★ ★ ★

We fought a winning battle against Prop. 64 last year. But a Livermore business consultant, Brian Lantz, associated with Lyndon LaRouche, hasn't given up. They're trying to get 372,178 signatures to put the AIDS initiative on the ballot in June '88. The wording of the proposition is identical to Prop. 64, except that it extends the definition of AIDS carriers to those infected with newly discovered viruses, requiring AIDS to be put on the state list of reportable diseases, and therefore

(Continued on next page)

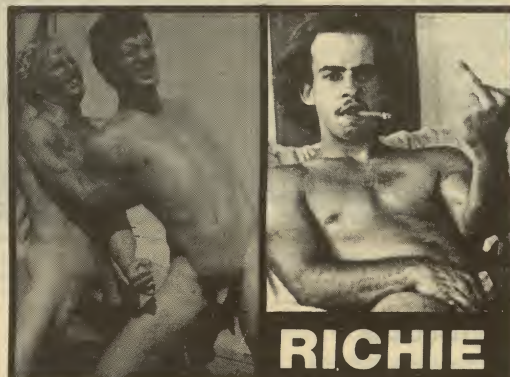
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Women's Training Center owner Betty Doza (l.) with actress Patrice Donnelly (*Personal Best*) at a fundraiser for the Center's Legal Defense Fund at Code Blue
(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

could include quarantine. Lantz says this initiative is not sponsored by the LaRouche organization. I don't know if I believe that, do you?

★ ★ ★

On the good side of humanity: The Senior class at University High here in SF is purchasing a jukebox for their student union, and all the proceeds from playing it will accrue to the AIDS Emergency Fund! Nice going! Of course, University High was one of the first high schools to be visited by Christian Haren in his speech-

making odysseys around the state.

At Intl. Mr. Leather in Chicago last month, Mack MacKinnon of Mack's Leathers in Vancouver, B.C., gave each package-deal ticket purchaser a free condom case, which he makes from scrap leather from his leather store. They have one metal stud on them, can be attached to your belt or jacket epaulet with a velcro tab, and can hold at least three condoms. They look good as an accessory (saying you're into safe sex) and you can have one for only a dollar if you ask for them. Send a dollar (make it two or more if you want) to Mack's Leather, 5606 Rhodes St., Vancouver, B.C., Canada V5R 3N9, for postage. Anything more than

a dollar goes to the Vancouver Persons With AIDS Coalition, a worthy charity for our Canadian brothers. Ask anyone who went to Chicago to show you theirs. They are quite spiffy!

The dish is so good I could squeak out loud! Michelle, Sir! bet Pete Pettine she'd lose 100 lbs. in record time, which she did, so Pete's throwing this fabulous soiree for her this Saturday night at his Diamond St. digs. Michelle looks so suave, svelte, and svabulous, you just gotta be there!

That's it for this week, boys and girls. Hang in there, see you at the Brown Bag parties, and when you're living and loving, do it in leather! And get involved!

Benefit Performance

Ntozake Shange, the internationally acclaimed author of *for colored girls who have considered suicide/when the rainbow is enuf*, is returning to San Francisco to perform in her newest piece, *Three Views of Mt. Fuji*, at The GrapeVine. A special benefit for the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights will be held on Sunday, June 14, and will be followed by a reception with the author and cast. Don't miss this exciting opportunity to support the March, the Lorraine Hansberry Theatre, and to meet the author and other actors.

This production is Shange's first performing appearance in the Bay Area. Since the success of *for colored girls*... in 1974, Shange describes *Three Views of Mt. Fuji* as "A poem with music." With its unique structure and the power of its vision, *Three Views* follows the trail blazed by the landmark *for colored girls*... yet explores dramatic territory of its own. Shange fuses the explosive rhythms of language and poetry with dance and a jazz improv score by composer Billy Bang to mine the very hearts and souls of her characters—and finds there compassion and protest, laughter and sorrow, anger and bittersweet love.

The Lorraine Hansberry Theatre is presenting *Three Views of Mt. Fuji* as an environmental piece rather than in a traditional theatrical setting. Performances will take place at The GrapeVine, a cocktail lounge and dance bar near the panhandle area of Golden Gate Park. In *Three Views*, a group of third world poets assembles in such a neighborhood bar to celebrate the birthday of one of their number. Old passions flare; old ideals are questioned. The lively poetry reading that ensues becomes a focus for the multi-racial group to explore their lives and relationships, the power of obsessive love, and the meaning of their work as poets in a world of drug abuse and racism, apartheid and foreign intervention.

The GrapeVine is located at 1751 Fulton near Masonic, and there is ample parking across the street in Pettrini's parking lot. The performance begins at 8 p.m. and the reception follows the performance. Tickets are \$20 and are available at all BASS outlets, STBS/Union Square, the Lorraine Hansberry Box Office, and by calling the March on Washington at 486-0269. ●



The weather was cool, but the conversations warmed the afternoon of the Haight Street Fair (Photo: R. Pruzan)

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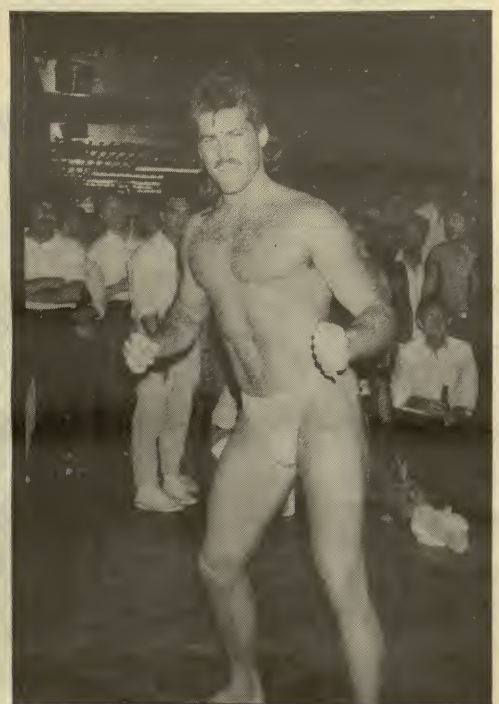
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Stephan of Sacramento won the Oct. '88 spot on the End-Up Buns Calendar last week (Photo: Marcus)

On The Road Again

Last weekend approximately 60 San Franciscans descended upon Reno to participate in its coronation activities. Representatives from more than 30 Imperial Empires were in attendance to pay tribute to Emperor XI Dennis Sutton and Empress XI Brandee upon their successful and celebrated reign.

The weekend festivities began with the Monarch's Show Friday night at the Ice House. The show was emceed by our own Empress XX Sissy Spaceout. The Monarch Show is held to honor the outgoing Emperor and Empress, and its performers are either reigning or former "Heads of State" from other courts.

Following the Monarch's Show, everyone headed for the Club 1099 to participate in the Emperor and Empress of the Americas contest. The contestants can only be elected reigning or former Emperors or Empresses. This is a totally camp title, and the winners have to promise to do nothing during their reign, which, in most cases, is exactly what they do. Beauty, good looks, or former good deeds are not considered endearing qualities. However, all of the former titleholders have been beautiful in their own way. The voters are, again, only those who hold or have held the titles of Emperor or Empress.

Supposedly, campaigning is only to occur on the night of the election. Ha - Autocrats, being what they are, have consistently ignored the rules and have waged lengthy campaigns in search of this title. Campaign war chests were swollen with hundreds of pennies taken from unguarded piggy banks. And to the victor who spent the most, the spoils! Our own Emperor XIII Ken Wright, who teamed up with Seattle Empress XVII Cha Cha had difficulty out-spending (although they didn't out-drink them) former Emperor Lee Williamson of San Fernando Valley and former Empress Lola of Los Angeles, for Emperor and Empress of the Americas. Rumor has it that a palace insurrection is in the making, and the Imperial Guardians are being mustered. We'll have to wait and see!

After the Emperor and Empress of the Americas contest, those who still had steam went on to the Bar West for a special show hosted by San Francisco's nobility. Grand Duchess Lola Lust and Empress Tina Tanner, along with San Francisco's court members, entertained the crowded bar until sunrise. Since Reno is a 24-hour town, festivities don't start until late - very late by our standards. So, staying up late is nothing to be concerned about, and everyone parties until dawn.



Sissy Spaceout (l.) and Gladys Bumps at the PAWS for PWAs benefit at Kimo's (Photo: Rink)

The Sands Hotel was the host hotel, so Saturday the hospitality suite was buzzing with all the dignitaries turning in their protocol cards and entrance music. Between listening to other courts' gossip and reviewing old friendships, I didn't have time to really pursue the gaming tables. Before you knew it, it was time to start applying the silly putty and attempt to make one's self pretty for the evening.

The Coronation Ball was held at the Reno/Sparks Convention Hall and, as is Reno's tradition, it started exactly at 6:59 p.m. The

opening presentation, based on the theme of the Ball, "An Evening of Elegance and Sleaze," was excellent and very entertaining. Besides the candidate presentations, command performances, and business presentations, the audience was treated to entertainment from the Onslow Casino's "Boy Oh Boy" revue and the Bally's Grand Hotel cast from "Hello Hollywood Hello."

'This is a totally camp title, and the winners have to promise to do nothing during their reign, which in most cases, is exactly what they do.'

The evening went rather smoothly and, as the Ball was nearing its end, anticipation was growing. The contest for Empress was reportedly very close, and it was too difficult to call. After the final walks for Emperor Dennis and Empress Brandee, the Royal Family was called onto the stage along with the Board of Directors to view the election result and bring the newly elected monarchs on stage. Congratulations to Jerry Mott and Linda Crawford for being elected the new Emperor and Empress of the Silver Dollar Court of Reno. Also, to Emperor Dennis and Empress Brandee, good luck to both of you and congratulations on a successful reign. To all of Reno, thank you for a fun weekend.

UP AND COMING

The SFGDI Club will host its open meeting Friday, June 12, at 8:30 p.m. at the Covered Wagon, 917 Folsom St. If you haven't submitted your application for the club's annual run, "18 Wheeler," this is your chance to do so and get transportation. The run is scheduled for the weekend of June 19-21 at Lake Edson in the Stanislaus Forest.

Tony Trevizo and Tom Rodgers, Mr. Leather Daddy, will host a Father's Day beer bust and auction to benefit the Godfather Service Fund and the AIDS Emergency Fund. It will be held at the S.F. Eagle patio Sunday, June 21, from 3 to 6 p.m. A donation of \$8 is requested, which will include all the beer or soft drinks you can drink, and food, which is being prepared by Wat Abbott. Entertainment will be presented by the cast members of *It's Fascination*, Danny Williams, Phisique '87, and Deanna Jones.

The following Thursday Tony and Deanna will host a benefit Cabaret and Auction for Coming Home Hospice and the Gay Softball League World Series at the Metro (Market, Noe, and 16th streets). There is no admission charge, hors d'oeuvres will be served, and the bar will donate a portion of its receipts to the fund-raising efforts. The theme of the evening is "A Salute to Gay Pride." See you there!

That's it for now. Thanks DTA, the girls raved over the jewelry. Happy Birthday GIG, DTA, and Stephen. Hugs and Aloha! •



The Tammy Faye Bakker Look-A-Like contestants at Alvin's with the winner, J.R., second from left (Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)



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Close, But No Cigar

The Phone Booth out on South Van Ness is having a big benefit for the Shanti Project Friday the 26th from 8 p.m. 'til Linda, Dennis, and the gang are doing Wheel of Fortune with lots of fabulous prizes. All monies will go to Shanti, so if you have things to donate get them to the Phone Booth pronto and do try to be there that evening for this great event — Linda is not going to be Vanna White.

June 11 marks my 100th day on the wagon. Yes, it is almost a record, but I am not going to have a drink 'til Thanksgiving.

Duffy of the DeLuxe on Haight Street, how come you and Kenny have not made it to the Wine Country to see me as of yet?

John Hughes, where have you been keeping yourself?

If you don't get to see *Cabaret* by this weekend, remember it shall return for three weeks in August — don't miss it.

Great Tavern Guild meeting at Molly Brown's at the River, and thank you, Char of the Kokpit, for the bus; everyone had a ball.

Belated birthday greetings, Friday last, to Tommy of the Eagle Creek Saloon, and hope you have many more, honey.

Billy Bunz and Casey are both still on the planks at the ever-popular Hob Nob on Geary and doing a great job.

Tuesday the 16th Ginger's Too will serve the fabulous Ginger Rogers' famous Beef Stew with a special salad for only \$5.99, so make your reservations early at 543-3622.

I understand one of the Duster Sisters from the Special on Castro Street needs some handwipes for her nose(?).

Lenny does hire some reliable chefs, especially Frieda. Love ya, girl; and long time no see you, Mr. Mollett.

Vi of the Viking Barber Salon has retired and is living the good life in Maton, California up near Red Bluff, and is looking just great; right, Jim Robinson?

Aunt Charlie's Saloon on Turk Street is moving right along in the decor department, and of course Alabama Chuck is keeping a very close eye on Reba, who says she is behaving. Let us know when you are having the Grand Opening, Chuck.

Yes, Bill Lynch is still down the street at the Peter Pan, and you do know he gets first choice on all tricks? So don't try to beat him out of one; love ya, Bill.

Remember Sunday the 14th is Brown Bag Day, a benefit for the Gay Softball League World Series and the AIDS Emergency Fund. It is held at six bars: Amelia's, Cafe San Marcos, The Endup, Pilsner Inn, Rawhide, and the S.F. Eagle. It only costs \$1 for a brown bag with a gift or a card with a number inside telling you what you've won. Check Mr. Marcus' column for more info as he is involved with putting it on — a great idea.

Yes, it is true that you can now find Mark Friese at the Mint out there on Market Street, and he's doing well — nice new owners too!

DICK WALTERS



Danny Perez of Ginger's Too and his hot Mama Dee Dee at a recent party

Yes, it is true that our own Mavis is quite ill, no not AIDS, but something else, so do light a candle for this great person.

Safe Sex: try the Circle J Club at 369 Ellis St. for the latest and hottest in gay hardcore erotic films. Hal Call does do it right.

Rumor has it that Mame of Portland is now moonlighting as a bartender in a beer and wine bar. Hope you had a great time, Mame, at the Rose Festival last weekend, the first one I have missed in more than 10 years; hi, Dennis Gartner, when are you coming to S.F.?

The SFGDIs are having an open meeting on Friday the 12th

at 8:30 p.m. at the Covered Wagon, 917 Folsom St., and anyone interested is invited to attend. It is important because the group is arranging transportation, etc. for its great run coming up on the 19th, 20th, and 21st.

The next Tavern Guild meeting is at the popular Watering Hole on the 23rd, and following that on the 7th of July is the election meeting at the White Swallow, so do try to make both of these meetings at two great bars. We'll be seeing you, Joe, at the Watering Hole, so watch out; right slaves, Lew and Don?

Tuesday the 16th Jessie and the gang of the Polk Gulch Saloon will celebrate their 9th Anniversary, and it does promise to be a biggie, with cocktail-hour prices from 6 a.m. 'til 7 p.m. and fun and surprises from 7 'til closing, so don't miss it because Flame and Dolly will be upset if you do.

Don't forget that the 14th Annual Gay Community Awards are coming up July 11 — more later.

At Kimo's birthday party last Thursday night, Bob Ross, the B.A.R. publisher, introduced Ron Huberman, Wayne Friday, and special guest John Molinari; and a thank you to Sissy Spaceout for pulling this whole thing together. Campus Theatre's Sean Erickson stripped down to his furry loin-cloth. Tatiana, Deena Jones, and Flame were all there, all running for something. Yes, Kimo will still not admit his true age, but Count Marco knows because they are very close — in age.

Do It For Daddy On Fathers' Day

Sunday, June 21, the Fourth Annual Fathers Day beer bust and auction will be held at the S.F. Eagle, 398 12th St. This San Francisco tradition will benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund and the Godfather Service Fund. An \$8 donation entitles participants to draft beer and a sultry meal. Entertainment will be provided by the renowned Danny Williams, the cast of *It's Fascination*, Deena Jones, and the Physique '87 team. There will be a rainbow selection of items auctioned off by celebrity auctioneers.

This event is being hosted by Mr. Leather Daddy Tom Rodgers and Tony Trevizo. Any individuals interested in providing an auctionable item and/or service may contact Tom Rodgers at 861-0516 or Tony Trevizo at 626-1959 or 771-6133.

Art Exhibits at The Galleon

The Galleon Bar & Restaurant, located at 718 14th St. (near Market and Church), is pleased to offer the walls of its newly redecorated garden dining area for the display of visual arts by community artists of the Bay Area. When a sufficient body of work has been committed, a champagne reception giving viewers and prospective buyers a chance to meet the artists whose work is displayed will be held. (Art will be periodically rotated.)

There is generally a high rate of sales for art displayed in a restaurant setting. In the event of sale The Galleon asks no commission, but suggests instead that the artist donate 10 percent of the selling price to the AIDS-related organization of his or her choice.

For further information, artists are urged to contact Bob Sandner at 724-1770, or The Galleon at 431-0253.

Salute to Gay Pride

Fire Crystal Ebony Star Productions is proud to announce A Salute to Gay Pride at the Top of the Metro to be held on Thursday, June 25, during gay pride week.

The event will benefit the Gay Softball League World Series '87 and the Coming Home Endowment Fund. It will be an evening of cabaret entertainment as well as an auction of merchandise and services.

To add to the benefit, the Metro Bar will contribute half of the bar receipts from 7 to 10 p.m.



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(Photo: Rink)

The Pussies Promise: This is the Last Time

Maud's, that Cole Valley lesbian sanctuary, will celebrate its 21st anniversary June 13 with the absolutely last performance of

the Pussies In Polyester around 9:30 p.m. They promise.

Leisure suits are optional.

Gay Bands at March On Washington

Lesbian and Gay Bands of America announces a benefit symphonic band concert as a related event to the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights. The concert, Let Freedom Ring, will be held Saturday, Oct. 10, at Constitution Hall in Washington, D.C.

The concert will benefit the Human Rights Campaign Fund, Fund for Human Dignity, National Association of People with AIDS, National AIDS Network, Whitman-Walker Clinic AIDS Foundation (Washington, D.C.),

Karl's Calendar

THURSDAY 6/11

Softball Casino and Video (1984 GSL Champions vs. Royal Family), Kokpit, 7:30 p.m., raffle and food.

Nomination Party (Gay Community Awards), Polk Gulch, 7:30 p.m.

Nomination Party (Gay Community Awards), New Bell Saloon, 8:45 p.m.

Nomination Party (Gay Community Awards), Stallion, 10 p.m.

Forum Meeting, Chez Mollet, 8 p.m.

Bare Chest Contest, S.F. Eagle, 10 p.m.

FRIDAY 6/12

Dancing Cheek to Cheek, Trocadero Transfer, 6:30-9:30 p.m.

Physique '87 Beer Bust, S.F. Eagle, 7-10 p.m., \$7.

SFGDI Club Open Meeting, Covered Wagon, 8:30 p.m.

SATURDAY 6/13

Muff's Morning Movie (On Golden Pond), Men's Room, 10:30 a.m., host Mark.

Tammy Faye Bakker Look-A-Like Contest, Alvin's, 10 p.m., \$1 donation, benefit S.F. AIDS Foundation.

SUNDAY 6/14

Brown Bag Day, Amelia's, Cafe San Marcos, The Endup, S.F. Eagle, Pilsner Inn, Rawhide, benefit Gay Softball World Series and the AIDS Emergency Fund.

California Eagles and Constantines M/C Beer Bust, S.F. Eagle, 3-6 p.m., \$8, Danny Williams and Gail Wilson with City Swing, benefit Project Open Hand.

Employee Beer Bust, Transfer, 3-6 p.m., \$4.

Love That Drag Party, Kimo's, 4-8 p.m., \$5, show and buffet, benefit Our Place.

Nomination Party (Gay Community Awards), Trax, 7:30 p.m.

Nomination Party (Gay Community Awards), Church Street Station, 8:45 p.m.

Nomination Party (Gay Community Awards), The Mint, 10 p.m.

Cabaret Night, Galleon, 8 p.m., \$5 cover, featuring Ed Fonseca.

MONDAY 6/15

Maury's Marguerita Party, Trax, 12-7 p.m., \$1.25.

TUESDAY 6/16

ICF Meeting, Chez Mollet, 8 p.m.

Compiled by Diedre

National March on Washington Committee, and LGBA.

More than 350 musicians, twirlers, and flag corps members representing all 13 of the LGBA member bands will participate in the concert and the march and rally Oct. 11. The concert will also feature performances by the Denver Women's Chorus and the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington.

The concert program includes Broadway, pops, and "light" classics. Ticket prices are \$35, \$25, \$20, \$15, \$12.50, and \$7.50. Group rates are available. Tickets are now on sale.

Concert donors and sponsors are urgently needed to help with concert expenses. LGBA needs to raise \$5-7,000 by July 1 to cover upfront concert expenses. Concert sponsors (\$500+ donors) will be acknowledged in the concert program and press releases, will receive complimentary concert program ads, two orchestra tickets, souvenir concert T-shirts, and will be guests at a post-concert reception. Current sponsors include the Valley Business Alliance (Burbank, CA) and Adam Rose and Larry Solowitz (New York City). Advertisers for the concert program are also needed. LGBA is a tax-exempt,

nonprofit organization.

For further information write to: LGBA Productions, P.O. Box 57099, Washington, D.C. 20037.

Youth Participates in Gay Freedom Week

For more information on youth/student participation/activities in Northern California during lesbian/gay freedom week (June 20-28) contact the Gay Area Youth Switchboard at 386-4297.



Electric City

Electric City would like to televise your special events for the month of July on our community calendar, at no cost to your organization. Call 861-7131 as space is limited. Deadline is June 19 for a June 25 airdate.

Menage In Atlantis!

Menage—the exciting new ensemble of the Lesbian/Gay Chorus of San Francisco—will perform at Atlantis, the River's hot new club/resort, Sunday, June 14, at 2 p.m. Club Atlantis is located at 16590 River Rd. in Guerneville.

Displaying a sophisticated style that is fast becoming synonymous with Menage, the mixed-voice octet has performed for such large-scale community functions as 22 on the Red and the 1986 Cable Car Awards, and will appear at the Venetian Room in City Swing's August production of You and the Night and the Music.

The capable direction of Pat Parr is evident in his skillful blending together of the talents of the eight musicians, whose diverse performing backgrounds include Broadway, cabaret, opera, summer stock theater, cruise ship entertainment, and radio.

The high-spirited members of Menage are seen to be equally at home donning glitter at the Galleon, leather at the San Francisco Eagle, or down-home country duds at Big Mama's, while the

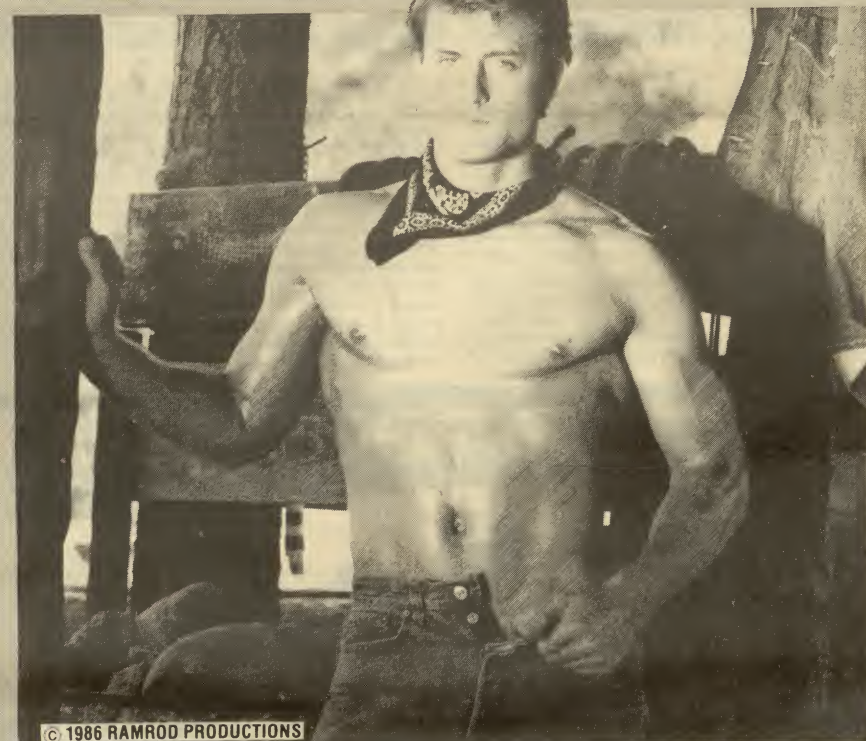
unfailing enthusiasm of their audiences shows that the appeal of good music does indeed know no societal barriers. Those who prefer to take their listening pleasure in a more intimate atmosphere are keeping Menage in demand on the private-party circuit.

Whether it's Bach or the Beatles, boogie or blues, every performance of this versatile new group is a treat that is not to be missed!

Financial Report 1987 Great Tricycle Race

| MONIES | |
|---|------------|
| Button Sales | \$ 786.00 |
| Registration Fees | 320.00 |
| Dunk Tank Donation | 25.15 |
| (Coits) | |
| Schnapps Sales | 66.00 |
| (Grenier Liquors) | |
| 50/50 Raffle (Eagle) | 93.00 |
| Prizes for 1st, 2nd & 3rd Redonated | 600.00 |
| Prizes for Costumes & Tricycles Redonated | 225.00 |
| | \$2,115.15 |
| - Cost of Buttons | 480.00 |
| - Band | 200.00 |
| - Misc. Expenses | 50.00 |
| Subtotal | \$1,385.15 |
| + Misc Donation | 24.85 |
| Total to be turned over to Shanti | \$1,400.00 |

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Heymont

(Continued from page 30)
who reads this newspaper.

GIVING HEAD

Although I, personally, have never been turned on by snuff films, I must doff my hat to the Houston Grand Opera for the intelligence and artistic sensitivity with which it recently mounted a new production of *Salome*. Fancifully designed by Jim Dine and straightforwardly directed by Francesca Zambello, HGO's *Salome* benefitted in large part from its use of the written word.

For this production (the first of Strauss's opera which I have experienced with Supertitles) HGO stuck as closely as possible to Oscar Wilde's original language, thus giving its audiences a stronger sense of what originally made *Salome* so shocking. By today's standards, Wilde's sensuously evocative language might seem tame. But the curious balance achieved between the sung portions of the opera and the Dance of the Seven Veils became an artistic achievement the likes of which I have never before experienced. Initially, when Salome began her dance, I felt satiated by the richness of the projected text. As the dance progressed I was increasingly won over by the orchestra's playing and, finally, swept off my feet by conductor John DeMain's interpretation of the score.

HGO's two casts featured Josephine Barstow's marvelously obsessed Princess contrasted with Catherine Lamy's full-voiced yet touchingly childlike Salome. While Wieslaw Ochman was a serviceable Herod, I was much more impressed with Grame Matheson-Bruce's performance — the first time I've heard a tenor who could actually sing Strauss's music from beginning to end. Ingvar Wixell was a superb Jokanaan. (Roger Roloff sang the role in the second cast.) Decked out in pastel capes and a towering John Sex fright wig, Rosalind Elias's Herodias was very much a sight for sore eyes.

And when one takes into account the woman who called the box office to find out if she could buy tickets to *Salmonella*, the whole thing ended up being a pretty heady affair!

Warren

(Continued from page 31)

With everyone in the legal system except Ness' group on Capone's payroll, and the public overwhelmingly opposed to Prohibition, I couldn't help wondering at times if I was rooting for the right side.

Except for the blood, which flows freely frequently, much of *The Untouchables* looks more like 1959-63 television than '80s cinema. In its schizy way it's well-made entertainment. (Regency 2, Century Plaza, Geneva D-1)

Karr

(Continued from page 29)

give strong support; I don't know who played the angry rebel, but he was good, too. (through July 12; 474-8800)

★ ★ ★

I couldn't garner much enthusiasm for Michael Frayn's *Benefactors*, being given an acceptable but uninvolved presentation by the Addison Stage Company in Berkeley. A London hit with a brief New York run, the play begins slowly and develops to an intriguing Act One curtain, only to dissipate interest partly into the second act by losing focus on both its ideas and structure.

The play is an interesting complement to the Berkeley Rep's *Good Person*. Both have the same

SWEET SUSHI

Captive Hearts is a pacifist parable that's well intentioned but predictable and heavy on the saccharine.

Shot down over Japan late in 1944, Lt. Chris Makepeace and Sgt. Michael Sarrazin, are taken as prisoners to a village to help build a house. Sarrazin, who unconvincedly affects a tough Brooklynese, is quickly put out of his misery — and ours. Makepeace, who was probably cast for his name but is less embarrassing

than he was in *Vamp*, goes native. He falls in love with young widow Mari Sato, daughter-in-law of wise old Noriyuki "Pat" Morita.

And there Chris stays until it's time for him to go. But will he leave Mari-san to the meanest man in the village? Sure, like she'll cut rice out of her diet.

I hate to dump on such a nice movie, but if the Japanese had had communications as effective as the telegraph director Paul Almond uses for major plot points, they might have won the war. (Kabuki)

Master Builder. Most damaging is the lack of immediacy between the characters and their dilemma. In this production, it's just all too cozy, which augments the overall sense that this really isn't a terribly interesting script at all. It purports to be about a moral dilemma and never quite gets there, turning into a domestic squabble.

"In the end," despairs the architect as his utopian housing project turns into a high-rise horror, "it's not art, it's mathematics." Similarly about the overly clever structure of *Benefactors* itself. The fracturing of time and place camouflage a muddled development, and we're left not with human feelings, but the ostensibly clever logistics of playwrighting. (through June 28; 548-7603)

Woolhouse

(Continued from page 27)

George E. Willey, with the difficult part of the speechless King, mimed a fine performance that had the audience cheering by the end of the show. Michael Cronin provided a hot-to-trot Prince Dauntless, while Court Jester Richard Dillenback came up with the best choreography when he gave them the old soft shoe.

Particularly noteworthy was Largent's staging. Instead of using the Club's small stage, he set the show on the large dance floor, which gave all of the audience an

excellent view of the complex carryings on. Although theater in the round or square often times is awkward, this time it worked well, with the audience at dining tables on two sides of the auditorium and all of the action running down the center.

As part of Bread & Broadway a 1 p.m. brunch is served before the 2 p.m. curtain. This wasn't a case of California Cuisine in California Hall. Instead, good, old-fashioned American home cooking was the style, and you couldn't possibly go away hungry. It was more a case of Sunday dinner rather than Sunday brunch.

Presented by Robert Michael Productions in association with the Encore-City Players, *Once Upon a Mattress* is decidedly not for sleeping. Bright and breezy, including the costumes by Cast and musical direction by Bob Parke, the show rolled merrily along for two enchanting hours.

Between acts, champagne was served as part of brunch, but it wasn't necessary. *Once Upon a Mattress* fizzed and bubbled entirely on its own merits.

Once Upon a Mattress
Sundays at 1 p.m., Calif. Hall
June and July; 554-8523

Campbell

(Continued from page 30)

ficial artist-in-residence program has been the single most important factor in Elizabeth's artistic growth.

"My grandmother was the first to encourage me," she said. "Now I have the advice and support of fellow singers. I'd love it if someone were to sponsor me, but that's rare these days outside of grants, and performers must make their own career decisions." Opera San Jose makes the rent and she works part-time as well, but Mary has decided to wait before seeking an agent at least until her name is better known.

The inevitable pilgrimage to Germany has already been postponed for a year, but it will be made.

"I should do it as soon as I can. There's a backlash starting because of Americans displacing home talent in the Central European houses."

There are no better alternatives at present. The Merola program seldom produces more than second-string players and the Metropolitan auditions are too political to count for much. Pave-mounding remains the best route to an expanded stage experience.

Elizabeth Enmann can hardly say she hasn't been stretched in San Jose. Her repertoire runs the gamut from solemn drama to all-out farce, and she's remarkable for commanding attention even when doing nothing at all.

"I look for whatever love there is in a character, no matter how unpleasant they actually are. It makes people care, even while they're hating you."

Completing Opera San Jose's Sunday Showcase Series with a solo recital Sunday, June 14, at 3 p.m. in the Montgomery Theatre is an important moment for Enmann, and she looks forward to it with a mixture of joy and trepidation.

"My greatest fear is being thought a fraud. I know I have to sing, but what if no one agrees?"

I'd offer assurance if I thought for a moment she needed it. Even if the pipes should fail, Elizabeth can always rely on her comedic gifts. Aside from the expected concert fare, Sunday's recital will devote time to two characters created by Enmann herself—Bawdy Mary, a street singer from a broader age, and Loretta Fitzwell, a 19th-century music hall chanteuse. Unorthodox, but typical of this singer's warm humor. She may be worried, but I'm betting on a winner.

Paul and Ron

(Continued from page 27)

"The world has changed so much recently. Gay men have pot lucks and lesbians go to brunch."

"I have three straight siblings and I'm the only one that isn't divorced. Heterosexuals just can't stay together, you know."

Romanovsky and Phillips are two outstanding voices of gay liberation. With their music, their humor, and their stance, they are not just gay, not just proud, but gay and proud and strong all at the same time. Their ability to communicate this to their audience is remarkable. Never aggressive but always assertive, they just might make that Tony Award show in New York, in the best Lily Tomlin tradition.

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Faulty Analysis

Parents Matter: Parents Relationships With Lesbian Daughters & Gay Sons

by Ann Muller
Naiad Press, \$9.95

by Frank Howell

During the past ten years several studies have been conducted regarding gays and their parents. But the present effort is lacking in any sense of organization. The publisher does not reveal information on Ann Muller and her qualifications for writing such a book. Is she a social scientist, or what? We gather from reading the text that she has a gay son.

Muller presents a jumble of charts and graphs at the conclusion of the book with data about positive and negative aspects of parental relationships with gay offspring. Throughout the study are scattered quotes from parents and children, but no unifying theme emerges.

The author describes her efforts to understand her gay son and the resulting outreach to others.

Her one persistent drumbeat is

that lesbian daughters have a tougher time than gay sons in all areas. This seems to emerge from the interviews of the 71 people chosen for the study (61 lesbians and gay men and ten sets of parents). No indication is given as to whether this constitutes a truly random sample.

Muller divides her sample into four types of responses or attitudes parents express toward the coming out of their gay children:

- **Loving denial:** More than 50% of the gay males (and 40% of the lesbians) fell into this most common category. "You can be gay but please don't confront me with anything" is the typical answer.

- **Hostile recognition:** Five percent of the sample demonstrated this extreme reaction.

- **Resentful denial:** A third of the group fell into this category.

- **Loving and open response:** 11% of those studied gave this response of complete acceptance. Muller found that the older the gay child is at the time of coming out the greater degree of acceptance.

But one of the findings is a bit strange. Several of the daughters felt their mothers were latent lesbians but none of the sons reported their fathers as being closet gays. This information certainly bears greater follow-up.

Usually the sample for any scientific study for human beings should include at least 1,000 subjects. Since Muller studies only 71 individuals, many of her findings may be viewed as suspect. It is dangerous to generalize from such a small sample.

The author continues to press her argument that lesbians suffer more than their male counterparts at the hands of their par-

Kinda Sorta Bizarro

Bizarro in Love: A Comic Lesbian Sex Fantasy

by Jan Stafford
A Cheap Shots Publication
227-A Vicente, S.F., CA 94127

by Dianne Gregory

Lesbian sex fantasy, certainly. But comedy? Kinda-sortainafunnykindasortaway.

Bizarro and her beloved have sex nearly every way possible to lesbians in almost every conceivable location. They make love to one another on the sly, at other people's houses, in elevators, on a train, and the list goes on. They use equipment right out of the pages of a Jules Verne novel and have sex in settings from one of Judith Krantz. It's all totally impossible, which makes it all the better.

That's because Jan Stafford has the ability to sustain an erotic atmosphere under the most bizarre circumstances and make you believe it, make you live it. Her prose is so hot it makes your fingers burn, burn to circle your clit while you're reading it.

But as for being a comedy, although it is sometimes slightly humorous, that is not what comes through. What does come through loud and clear is lesbian erotica at its best.

ents. She even claims that small families are better for gay males but worse for lesbian daughters.

Muller is fairly competent when she attacks the old-line psychoanalysts such as Irving Beiber and all the old Freudian notions. But this is ground that

has been covered many times before.

Parents Matter will provide a good morale boost to distraught mothers and fathers. But as a scientific analysis of humankind it barely rates much notice among the experts.

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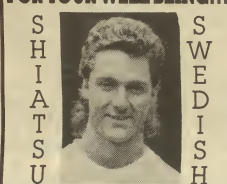
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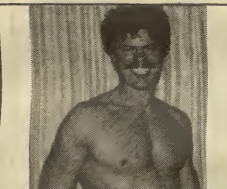
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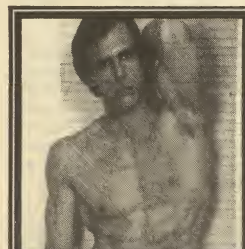
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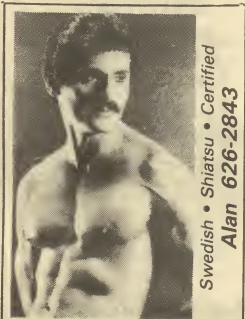
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BEAU: 22, 6', 180 lbs., 42C, Black
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EX-FIREMAN

30, 5'10", 190 lbs., BR/BR,
8" + cut. Likes to lean back
while you work his hose.
DAN 861-7931
NO GREEK

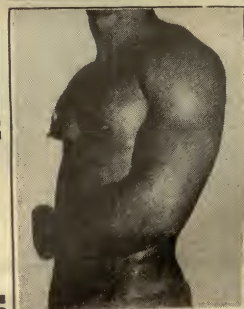
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Alan: 21, 5'6", 140 lbs,
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BOWLING

Unofficial Travelogue

The 1987 IGBO Tournament: New Orleans, May 22-24

by Lektro Gabadette

New Orleans hosted this year's annual International Gay Bowling Organization (IGBO) tournament, and it was quite a party. Bowlers from 28 United States, including Washington, Massachusetts, California, and Florida as well as Hawaii and Canada (including Toronto and Vancouver) descended on N.O. The approximate score was IGBO 1,200, New Orleans \$100,000 (mostly T-shirts).

The Mint, a gay bar in the southwest corner of the French Quarter, hired a straight bar (They mix 'em all up down there.) located across from it in the Old Mint building and treated us to a great party the first night (Friday, May 22). Not only did they have a live band (sort of jazz/blues with a bit of country thrown in) and a comedian, but we got to see the hottest strip show I've ever seen. A dozen or so of us

(from San Francisco, of course, looking for the best views) wound up in the balcony and discovered to our delight that the stripper's dressing room was right behind us! We then proceeded to get chummy, although it was tough carrying on a conversation — but who needs to talk when you can gawk? Also featured was New Orleans' own gay comedian, sort of a cross between Charles Pierce and Jim Bailey. When he came out with a box of Donna Rice Krispies (Made fresh each week-end in Beautiful Bimini.) he created quite a stir. My favorite song was "Monster Lash" (assorted original lyrics to "Monster Mash" sung with Tammy Faye Bakker in mind).

Bars in New Orleans are, for the most part, open 24 hours. Of course, since the temperature got down to a comfortable 75 or so between midnight and 4 a.m.,



Part of the entertainment at the IGBO tournament banquet (Photo: D.A. Litwin)

those of us representing San Francisco spent the days sleeping and our nights on the prowl. The major dance bar, the Bourbon Street Pub, has a great dance floor, somewhat reeking of sweat

and poppers, with enough strobes, videos, and mirrors to keep your head spinning through the next Mardi Gras. It also has the only cover (\$5 for upstairs dancing) we ran across on this trip. A block away is the popular La Fitte's, which has a crowded, noisy, downstairs, and a pool table upstairs with a balcony you can hang out on.

IGBO bowlers have always been adept at providing their own entertainment, and New Orleans was no exception, even if it seemed somewhat unnecessary. However, the water ballet-style diving at the Fairmont pool was most impressive, especially when they bared their buns and chased off all the straight folks.

The Fairmont itself is one of New Orleans' finer hotels, and is remarkably similar to the one in San Francisco. One important exception is the rates; about half those here, even considering corporate rates. It also has great air conditioning, very important when it's 90 degrees with 95 percent humidity. IGBO had reserved six floors for the bowlers, about half the hotel.

IGBO used two houses this year, the new 64-lane Don Carter Lanes for singles and doubles and the Sugar Bowl for the team

event. The Don Carter is very impressive, with top-notch equipment and a congenial and supportive staff. Some bowlers were put off by the approaches, which were quite sticky; I thought the finish might not be compatible with New Orleans' high humidity. The Sugar Bowl (I later heard it referred to as the Toilet Bowl.) was as far as possible to the other end of the spectrum. John Games, of the Tavern Guild's Dick's at the Beach team, who was once its proprietor, insists its proper name is "Grease Bowl." It is a very old establishment, and it seems that 12 of its 24 lanes were added later; the wall separating them is right on the left gutter. Also, these lanes were enthusiastically oiled and are unbelievably slick. Most bowlers couldn't make the adjustments, and low scores were the result. As with the other house, you just couldn't fault the friendliness of the staff.

That was true of the whole weekend. Wherever we went, people were invariably friendly and went out of their way to make our visit as fun and memorable as possible.

The closing banquet, in an "Only-in-New-Orleans" style, was superb. We saw a slide show of the last Mardi Gras and got some important information: "Mardi Gras" is held 46 days before Easter (mark your calendars), and the balls in New Orleans held prior to Mardi Gras are invitation-only; they are held by private clubs called "krewes." The floor show at the banquet consisted of members of the seven gay krewes (the oldest is 26 years) in various Hollywood/Broadway/operatic (well *Lohengrin* at least) costumes, including ones from *Cats*, *My Fair Lady*, and *Kiss Me Kate*, as well as the aforementioned *Lohengrin*. Fabulous costumes, tons of paste jewels, yards of silk and satin, and enough feathers and fur to cast the Muppets.

You will note that this column has not devoted itself to actual bowling. I am somewhat embarrassed to report that San Francisco bowlers did not finish in the top ten in any event. (Blame me. My bowling was as bad as it's ever

(Continued on next page)

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Peter Bassford, Don Gambell, Ernie Wilson, and J.E. Halstead at the IGBO lanes in New Orleans (Photo: D.A. Litwin)

Peterson Blasts 290 Game At Park Bowl!

by Richard McPherson

I was there, I witnessed it, it really happened! Randy Peterson's team, Play With It, Ltd., which bowls in the Tavern Guild League at Park Bowl, was shooting a "pre-bowl" game on Sunday night, May 17, because some team members would be in New Orleans for a big tournament. I stopped by Park Bowl to interview Randy about some forthcoming tournaments and arrived as he was just finishing a "blemished" first game. After a nice 200 in his second game, he began his third with a spare and then strung 11 strikes in a row. His 12th frame strike was a gift: a runaway Brooklyn ball which barely caught the head pin, but just enough to give him a hot mixer. He was just one strike away from a perfect 300 game, the ultimate achievement for any bowler. His three-game series for the night was 640.

A reminder: the next monthly No Tap Doubles Tournament will be at Park Bowl, Saturday, June 20. Obtain a flyer in your league or call Randy Peterson at 626-8559. Sign up, join the fun, win some money, and support our big S.F. No Tap Invitational Tournament (SFNTIT) happening in November.

The SFNTIT committee is a member of the International Gay Bowling Organization (IGBO), an organization we should all be familiar with and support when we can. IGBO's purpose is to develop and encourage "Unity, Communication and Fellowship" among gay bowlers worldwide through sponsorship of national and regional tournaments and events. Current membership is upwards of 23,000 bowlers from 28 states, including 55 cities and two Canadian provinces. Randy Peterson has been the Regional Delegate to IGBO for the nine Western states for the past year, and I am proud to officially announce that he has been re-elected to a two-year term in this office. This election took place at the National IGBO tournament in New Orleans during Memorial Day weekend.

San Francisco has been chosen as the site for the IGBO midyear meeting, planned to coincide with our big No Tap Tourney (SFNTIT) Nov. 5-8. There is much development and preparation necessary to create this event, and the planning committee requests the assistance of any of you who can help. We would like to demonstrate to IGBO national delegates that our city is one of the leaders in strength, organization, and unity in the gay bowling world, so any support you can offer would be appreciated. All chairpersons and committee members of SFNTIT, as well as any other bowler who would like to offer his/her time and support, are requested to attend an organizational meeting at Park Bowl Sunday, June 21, at 4 p.m. There are about 11 committees focusing on areas such as housing, program/publicity, registration, lane monitors, banquet, fundraising, etc., and virtually all of them could use your assistance. The time commitment could be as little as a few hours. Questions? Call Randy Peterson at 626-8559 or Jackie Weil at 668-9202.

Another reminder: the Mini-Scratch Tournament is Saturday, June 27, at Park Bowl. This is a five-person scratch event with a maximum team average of 800, so there is room for all averages. Put a team together and get that form in! Info from Keith Ray at 474-3337 or Hugh Smith at 775-2149.

In the Tavern Guild Leagues at Park Bowl the high individual series was shared by Roy Thorson and myself; Roy had a 231/612 and I had a 222/612. Other high games over 220 were: J. E. Halstead 237, Greg Hulliger 235, Richard McPherson 226, and Steve Trott 224 (85 pins over his ave.). Mark Depke, who has a 133 average, bowled the first 500 series of his life in the Wednesday league with a 181, 181, 154 for a 516. And of course there's Jim Cvitanich with his 111 average. He's fairly new at the game and he shot a 185 with his shiney new

IGBO '87

(Continued from previous page)

been.) As with last year, bowlers from New York, New Orleans, La La Land, Detroit, and Chicago walked away with the awards. I know of two San Franciscans who finished in the top 40 in one event. Standings will be posted at Park Bowl in four to six weeks.

Although the above may sound a bit grim, please note that this was a great weekend, with great people, in a truly hospitable party town. You just can't have a better time than a weekend with a gay bowling crowd, and our experience at New Orleans this year was a perfect example of why gay bowlers are so enthusiastic about their sport and its tournaments.

Other IGBO news: John Hammond has retired his fairy wands (the presidency of IGBO) after five years, and Ron Keel of New York has assumed the office. John received many congratulations and thanks after his tenure, and we all look forward to socializing with him at the next IGBO instead of his having to attend meetings most of the weekend. Best of luck, John, and I'm sure it won't hurt your bowling at next year's tournament!

IGBO '87 has come and gone, and we're all looking forward to Washington, DC, in 1988. San Francisco, let's go get 'em! •



Preston Lasley, Randy Peterson, Bob Bates, and Doug Litwin off the IGBO lanes in New Orleans

red ball (this included his first-ever four-bagger). Keep it up, Jim!

Over at Japantown Bowl, Hunter Bauman was high with 212/

585. Other 200s: Ken Grey 204, Steve Winters 203, and Art White 202. Bill Pierson, 144 average, shot 192, 183, 188 for 563, a good consistent effort. •

PARK BOWL TAVERN GUILD BOWLING LEAGUES

Team Standings

| MONDAY TAVERN GUILD LEAGUE (Week 5 of 19 - as of 5/11/87) | | | THURSDAY TAVERN GUILD LEAGUE (Week 6 of 21 - as of 5/14/87) | | |
|--|-----|-----|---|-----|-----|
| 1. Frantic Finishers II | 17 | 3 | 1. Pilsner 4 Play | 19 | 5 |
| 2. Pilsner Powderpuffs | 16 | 4 | 2. Park Bowl | 17 | 7 |
| 3. Kokpit Pacers | 13 | 7 | 3. At Your Service | 17 | 7 |
| 4. Play With It, Ltd. | 12½ | 7½ | 4. Play With It, Ltd. | 16 | 8 |
| 5. Park Bowl | 12 | 8 | 5. Just Trax | 16 | 8 |
| 6. Capricorn Coffee | 11 | 9 | 6. Vera's Vinyl | 15½ | 8½ |
| 7. Station Go Aheads | 11 | 9 | 7. Special Moments | 15 | 9 |
| 8. Alcatraz Federal BBS | 10½ | 9½ | 8. Trax Trash | 14 | 10 |
| 9. Mr. Pilsner | 10 | 10 | 9. Moments Cafe | 13 | 11 |
| 10. Pilsner Pntless Sisters | 9 | 11 | 10. Miss Hits | 13 | 11 |
| 11. The Pet Stop Bees | 9 | 11 | 11. The Hole | 12½ | 11½ |
| 12. Jack Trux | 9 | 11 | 12. Superstar Video | 11½ | 12½ |
| 13. Welcome Home | 6 | 14 | 13. The Clean-Up Artists | 11½ | 12½ |
| 14. Pet Stop Cocktails | 6 | 14 | 14. Wooden Horse | 11 | 13 |
| 15. Watering Hole | 6 | 14 | 15. 3 Hits & a Ms | 10 | 14 |
| 16. | 0 | 20 | 16. Rockin' Robins | 9 | 15 |
| WEDNESDAY TAVERN GUILD LEAGUE (Week 7 of 22 - as of 5/27/87) | | | 17. Bowl Me Over | 7 | 17 |
| 1. The Leftovers | 22 | 6 | 18. The 69 Club | 6 | 18 |
| 2. Pilsner I | 21 | 7 | 19. American Pie | 5 | 19 |
| 3. Pilsner Potlickers | 20 | 8 | 20. 18th Street Services | 5 | 19 |
| 4. Strike It, Bitch | 20 | 8 | | | |
| 5. Ram's Head Bar | 19 | 9 | | | |
| 6. Pilsner Pin Guins | 16½ | 11½ | | | |
| 7. The Pendulum Pieces | 16 | 12 | | | |
| 8. Pendulum Pandas | 15 | 13 | | | |
| 9. 4 Your Eyes Only | 15 | 13 | | | |
| 10. DK's Unmentionables | 15 | 13 | | | |
| 11. Gutter Girls | 14½ | 13½ | | | |
| 12. The Rams & Ewe | 14 | 14 | | | |

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POOL

Back! Duck, Back! Back! At The All Star

by Lauren Ward

The S.F. Pool Association's 15th All Star Tournament was played Saturday, and the White Swallow's Back! placed three team members in the top four spots, with a lone DeLuxe Duck claiming second.

Held for the past few seasons at Park Bowl, the race to three double-elimination contests returned to the taverns and was graciously hosted by the Cinch and White Swallow, neighboring bars on Polk Street.

Walter Moreira caught fire and claimed his second All Star crown, having won before in the spring '86 competition. Walter suffered through a mediocre season, and was playing as one of the five alternates in the tourney. Only the top 16 rated individuals after regular-season participation were guaranteed entry into this tournament, with the top four finishers designated to represent S.F. in individual competition at West Coast Challenge XV in San Diego, July 10-12.

Walter put together an impressive 16-6 record in his victory, losing no more than a single game in each match preceding the final.

Any tournament veteran will agree that the toughest road to the final four is created by a first-round loss. The winner's bracket is populated by those who realize

they have another chance if they should lose a match. The loser's bracket is a pressure cooker containing those who are one step away from oblivion.

After drawing teammate and roommate and No. 2 seed Lisa Duncan as a first-round opponent, Lauren Ward was, at best, crestfallen. It seems destined in these matters that the least desired spot in the draw has a dependable attraction. Lauren fell victim to Lisa's 3-1 onslaught and fell into the loser's bracket pressure cooker. Ward's next opponent was Leo Emanon from the Eagle Creek, who was eliminated in a 3-2 decision. Next came the Bear Thugs' Joe Ankenbrandt, who jumped out to a two-game lead before Lauren's three-in-a-row comeback. The Badlands' Chuck Numbers fell victim to yet another 3-2 outcome. The final door to the top four was through another DeLuxe Duck, team captain, E.Z., who was the No. 1 seed, a two-time All Star Champion, and a six-time top-four finisher. E.Z. would fall 3-1, and Lauren went on to meet Walter Moreira for the final. Ward combined run-out shooting with the tournament's first 8-Ball break to give Walter his first match defeat and force a tiebreaker.

Moreira broke in the first game of the final match and the 8-Ball sailed into the corner

pocket. A run-out produced a second win. The fates intervened in the third game when he kicked for his last object ball, which was blocked. It sailed the length of the table, careened off another ball, and found a pocket as the cue-ball rolled into perfect 8-Ball position. The three-game final was over in less time than the average bar game, and Lauren would settle for her second All Star second place.

Rick Mariani, White Swallow's Back! team captain, claimed third place and will play in his first WCC individuals competition.

Colin Bradley, finishing fourth, has had eight top-four finishes in the All Star, including the first two championships. He played in last season's WCC XIV in Reno and claimed that crown for the second time. He'll go to San Diego as the defending individual champion.

The last time a single team's members claimed three of the top four All Star slots was in the fall of '85 when the DeLuxe Ducks pulled it off.

The final four in team competition compete this week, with the White Swallow's Back! facing the DeLuxe Ducks and the Watering Hole Buffaloes wading into the Eagle Creek Chaos II.

Dial JOE-POOL for SFPA information.

TENNIS

Community Rentals Zooms To Top

by Les Balmain

By winning each and every one of its singles and doubles matches, a first in the team-tennis history of the Gay Tennis Federation was made by Community Rentals when the team scored the maximum of 72 games in its thundering victory over Roto Rooter, which managed to net only 31 games. That happened the first weekend of Round 4 Saturday, May 30. The huge winning margin of 41 games propelled Community Rentals into first place. And Sunday, May 31, Zephyr Realty downed Lupann's Restaurant 63-46, which pushed Zephyr into third place.

In the second weekend of Round 4 Saturday, June 6, the White Swallow bounced back into the win column by downing Leticia's 66-33, which elevated the team from sixth to fourth place. And Sunday, June 7, The Galleon Bar & Restaurant, after leading the league for the first three rounds, slipped into second place since its margin of victory over the Nella/Schmidt Insurance team was 13 games, score 63-50. Community Rentals and the Galleon remain the only two unbeaten teams in the league, and are heading for a showdown in their

last match of the season scheduled Saturday, July 25.

Round 4 team tennis standings as of June 7 are:

| | |
|----------------------|--------------|
| 1. Community Rentals | 217-168 .617 |
| 2. Galleon | 252-176 .589 |
| 3. Zephyr | 237-207 .534 |
| 4. White Swallow | 221-210 .513 |
| 5. Lupann's | 225-220 .506 |
| 6. Nella/Schmidt | 202-251 .446 |
| 7. Roto Rooter | 190-249 .433 |
| 8. Leticia's | 152-269 .361 |

FIFTH ROUND SCHEDULE

All matches begin at 9 a.m. at the Sidney Peixotto playground tennis courts on 15th Street two blocks west of Castro Street.

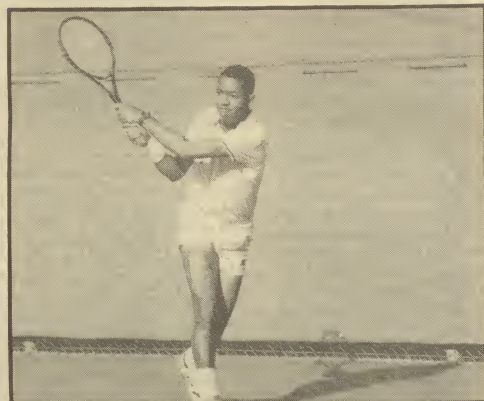
Saturday, June 13: Zephyr vs. Galleon

Sunday, June 14: Nella/Schmidt vs. Community Rentals

Saturday, June 20: White Swallow vs. Lupann's

Sunday, June 21: Leticia's vs. Roto Rooter

For information and/or entry forms for the Gay Tennis Federation, please contact Michael DeGarmo, secretary, at 285-2283, or write: Gay Tennis Federation, 2215 R Market St., #109, San Francisco, CA 94114.



Some of the action at last year's LATA championships

L.A. To Host National Gay Tennis Tournament

The Los Angeles Tennis Association will host the Fifth Annual LATA National Tennis Championships in Los Angeles over Labor Day weekend, Sept. 5-7.

The tournament is one of the major events on the "gay tennis circuit," which also includes tournaments in San Francisco, Dallas, San Diego, and Houston.

The tournament will have divisions for Open, B, and 35-and-Over players, which will be open to both men and women.

"The addition of a B division to this year's tournament should be an attraction to intermediate-level players who want the excitement of playing in a national tournament," said Sutton. A consolation bracket for first-round losers will be held for each division, thus assuring each participant of at least two rounds of play.

Tournament organizers anticipate that the Labor Day weekend date will allow individuals to coordinate their summer vacation plans with participation in the

tournament. Bargain air fares and free housing being offered by LATA members are also expected to encourage broader participation. Previous LATA tournaments have attracted players from throughout California, as well as Texas, Illinois, New York, Massachusetts, Florida, and Michigan.

The \$35 entry fee includes all match activities as well as a dinner banquet and entertainment extravaganza the second evening of the tournament. Persons wanting more information or an entry application may write the LATA, P.O. Box 481226, L.A., CA 90048. Entries will be accepted on a first-come basis until the draw is full, or until the entry deadline of Aug. 22.

Last year's Open singles champion, Jim Asher from Los Angeles, is expected to defend his title again this year. Asher, formerly a professional tennis instructor while living in Detroit, also won the Open singles title at the inaugural Gay Games in 1982.

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